PHEANDER

THE

MAYDEN-KNIGHT:

OR,

LOVES HEROICK

CHAMPION.

A

The famous History of PHEANDER

The MAIDEN KNIGHT,

HOW

Disguised under the habite and Name of ARMATIVS a Marchant, he forsooke his Kingdome of *Carmania* for the Love of AMORETTA, the most Incomparable Princesse of *Trebisond*.

Whose Love by his matchless Valour and haughty attempts in Armes, he at the last obtained, and was afterwards made King of *Trebisond*.

Together with a true Narration of the rare fidelity of his Tutor *Machaon*, who had travelled through divers Kingdomes in the pursuance of him, and the Counsels which they joyntly entertained for his Repossession into his Ancient, and native Kingdome of *Carmania*.

Intermixed with many pleasant Discourses, wherein the Graver sort may take delight, and the Youthfull be encouraged by honourable and worthy adventures to gaine Fame.

LONDON,

Printed by THOMAS FAVVCET, and are to bee sold by *Fr. Coles*, at his Shop at the signe of the Lamb in the Old-Baily, 1661.

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PHEANDER the Maiden Knight;
OR,
LOVES HEROICK CHAMPION.

CHAP. I.

How *Charondus* Prince of *Carmania*, upon Report of the exceeding Beauty of *Amoretta*, Daughter and Heire to *Castalinus* King of *Trebisond*, became inamoured and fell into an extreame Passion; whose Sickness the King and Queene, the Father and Mother of *Armatius*, so much grieved to behold that their griefes caused their danger of Life.

That time Charondus raigned King in Carmania, as their antient Annals record, Castalinus likewise swayed the Diademe in Trebisond, a Prince so highly Renowned for all Honourable actions, as that few such in his time liued.

This Castalinus in the blooming of his Princely yeares, desirous to leave Issue to his Noble house, joyned in Marriage with Eugenia, Daughter and sole Heire to Constantius Emperour of Germany, by whom in short time after their Nuptials, he had issue one Daughter who was named Amoretta.

This Princesse, as in comlinesse of Person she exceeded, so for her Beauty, Wisdome and other good Graces, there lived none her equall; the report of whose Excellence, as Fame

Fame advanceth with her lowdest trump the Honourable (especially) such peerlesse creatures, as this Princesse (yea) so highly stod she graced in the Gods favour, that none but Amorettaes Beauty was remembred in most Princes Courts both Christian and Heathen.

The renowne of whose peerlesse Beauty so often blazed, came to the hearing of Armatius, Son and Heire apparent to the Carmanian King, who upon the surpassing praises by every one given of this Lady, begun more and more upon hearing such severall reports to conceive an inward Joy of her, diligently hearkening to each Stranger which will recount her vertues and honour by vertue gained.

Long had not this honour followed the lovely Prince Armatius, but Love the soveraigne guide of mens thoughts, had so enthralled him, that all his delight was in contemplating of this Princess beauty. Yea, so was he overtaken in Loves snare that nothing was pleasing unto him, but the sweet remembrance of Amoretta; so much was his delight in her, that oftentimes in the midst of his pastimes calling the Princess to mind, he would as one past himself, altogether overcome with melancholy, abandon the company of his most familiars, seeking from their pleasing pastimes some solitary place, where he might unheard or seen recount with large amplifications ye Princess beauty, whose servant in mind he was wholy vowed. Thus dallied Armatius so long with beauties flame, that overtaken with the vehemency therof he fell into an extream Feaver, which in such strange maner assailed him, as the learnedst Physitians could not find any reason of Disease, much lesse procure his health who languished in Love, not daring to disclose his griefe to any, or acquaint his trustiest companion with his love. This sudden alteration of the Prince, in whose welfare the comfort not only of his companions in Court, but generally of the Commons consisted, moved them all to such exceeding griefe, that in short time their lovely countenances were so much altered, that neither pleasing looke nor cheerfull word, was to be obtained from them.

The King whose aged life depended on the happiness of his Son, as Fathers how base soever, delight in vertuous Offsprings

Off-springs, much more the Noble, whose honours are to be maintained by their Progeny: The aged King whose greatest Felicity was in the Prince, was with such infinite griefes oppressed, that in short time his body was so weakened, that rather he desired to accompany the dead then live in such discontent: The Mother Queen with over much care and watching neat pined, and few which felt not some part of the Princes griefe; Such was their faithfull loves unto him, whereof the Father gloried not a little, and the Mother (if Women may be proud) was not a little spiced with the Disease. But neither the Bounty of the Father, the extreame griefe of the Mother, the dayly lamenting of the Courtiers, nor the complaints of the Commons might any way availe the Prince, who smothering his owne sorrow, could not by all Art (Phisicke allowed for mens reliefe) be any way comforted. The ever-grieved burthen of whose misery, the Queene with his Kingly Father seeking to ease, and could not as he desired accomplish, such extremity likewise assayled them, that the Learnedest could not judge the difference betwéen them (so that by their ill) suppose the Subjects griefe, which reverently honoured them, and could willingly have offered their own Lives for their reliefe and ease.

But in vaine strive they, that séeke helpe for him whom none but the beautifull Amoretta could release, who was the Load-starre of his life; and the love of her the speciall Physicke which must restore him, or dye her would past all recovery; but by Amoretta that Paragon of fame, Diana's glory, Natures onely darling and delight.

Weake and féeble past recovery of Physicke, became the King and Queene, voyd of hope ever to sée their Princely Sons recovery: Wherefore, forgetting all worldly pleasure and Princely delights, such as become Princes of so high estéeme, quite abolishing all the vanities of the world, they mind wholly the everlasting comfort, and joy in nothing but his Death, that from death, by his Blood redéemed them.

In this extremity, when all hopes were past helpe of men

behold the mercy of him that preserveth and destroyeth at his pleasure, who moved no doubt at the Intercession of some of their vertuous Subjects, or taking pitty of their distresse, as we read in holy Writ Testimony of our Soules comfort, how Abraham beloved of GOD moved his divine Deity, for those Cities for sinne by just Judgement consumed, if five Godly people had beene found within their Walles they had beene preserved: So either for the vertues of the King, or the Intercession of those sorrowing Subjects, the giver of all Comfort sent them comfort as you shall heare.

THe Carmanian King, whose prime of youth was spent in many honorable actions, holding in great regard the Love of his Neighbour Princes, live in such Tranquillity that hee was honoured of all that heard of his Government. The report of whose long Sicknesse and weake Estate, moved the Kings of divers Regions by their Embassage to comfort them, and to be advertised of the truth of their Estates. Amongst which, those honourable Princes that held his health in such regard, Castalinus King of Trebisond dispatched his Ambassadour: Who for the more Honour of their King was accompanied with divers Gentlemen, both of Honour and great Worship.

These Ambassadours arriving at the Court of Carmania, their cause of Comming unknowne, many matters were of the Commons supposed (who will entermeddle with Princes Affaires) so that amongst them divers things were imagined, and sundry dangers suspected, but no assurance of any untill their day of hearing, which the King appointed to be as sudda ne as they could require.

Against which time Royall preparation was made, with all the pomp that could be devised, where for Feasting there wanted no Daintiers how rare soever, nor diversity of Uyands to please the Appetite, with many pleasing shewes and Pastimes, the better to give them occasion of Welcome: All which notwithstanding the Kings weaknesse, was so exquisitly performed that it was admirable.

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The Day of hearing come (as time stayeth not) Charondus having summoned his Councell and chiefest Nobility, against that time to attend his pleasure: These severall Ambassadours were brought to his presence, where with more shew of hearty welcome then his weake Body could deliver, he gave them such honourable Entertainment as beseemed the Messengers of such Princes, and highly contented them, whose courtesie the Strangers Nobles applauded, and grieved the more at his Extremity, by how much the more they saw his Debility.

After some talke passed betweene the King and these Nobles, and that he had enquired with all kindnesse of the health of their Princes, and Welfare of their Countries, and received their Letters with divers Princely presents, they were dismissed but yet not suffered to depart, without gracious thankes to their Kings, and kind shew of good acceptance for their paines, leaving them to their Repose, with great charge to his Nobles and those in Authority to see their Entertainment such, as if their Soveraign Lords were present: which Charge was not forgotten of those which prized their Princes honours as deare as their Lives, but with such pomp and cost accomplished each severall Command of his Highnesse: As the Strangers might well admire to behold it. Their Dyets so divers and so abundant as they had never seene the like, furnished with so much sundry Musicke, and so cunningly used as might well delight the Gods. To acquaint you with other pastimes for Recreation, as Playes, Maskes, Tilting, Turneying, Barriers, and other Courtly Pastimes, besides their hunting of Tygers, wild Bores and Lyons, which moved such delight as other sports pleasing unto them. Thus in using daily those pleasures, when the Nobles had spent some time in the Court, every one content with his Royall Entertainment, hearing amongst the Nobles of the Countrey such generall Honour of the Prince Armatius, whom they had not yet seene, an especiall desire moved them to visit the Prince, bewayling greatly ye such adverse chances, should nip so brave and honourable a Prince in the blooming time of his Princely yeares.

The Prince Armarius, albeit the imbecility of his Body denyed those Nobles by's presence at their Passimes, in which severall sport he much delighted; yet that they might not depart of him unfeene hee commanded a sumptuous Banquet in his Lodging to be ordained; To which hee invited the stranger Nobles and their Companies; who wishing to as the Prince were as glad to accompany him, as hee desirous of their company, and graciously with many humble thanks, accepted the Princes good will.

The youthfull Nobles attendant on the Prince, carefull to see each thing ordered for the honour of his Majesty, wanted nothing that might be desired, onely expected the comming of their Guests, who not unmindfull of their Princes, as Dinner time drew nigh prepares himself towards the Prince, unto whom by his Nobility in most gorgious manner they were conducted: No sooner entred they his presence, but Armarius whose courtesie was such as gained the love of his Subjects, and all Strangers that had seen his demeanor, yet at this time had better knowledge how to entertaine them, then ability to performe what hee would, stretching himselfe in his bed as his weake limbs would suffer him, he gave them such hearty welcomes, as highly contented them and beseemed their estates. Those Nobles, when they had made their eyes witnesses of what report had so often vaunted, rather accused report of great wrong, in not giving him such due as he deserved, then of overmuch praise; for that the same haunted of him, was not to be valued with his worthinesse.

The time of Dinner passed they with many glances on the Prince, noting his courtesie, but ever lamenting his griefe, and wishing his health, framing themselves to pleasant discourses to put him from those melancholy thoughts, wherewith hee was over-much burthened. Thus with much diversity of Table-talke consumed the time, the Graver sort of matters for benefit of the State, the greener heads, whose yeares required no other cares of their pleasing Passimes and pleasure, the managing of their Nobles, commending the nimblenesse of their Bodies, their dexterity in Tareering, their bravery

bravery in their Corvet, and excellent swiftnesse in their Gallop, their readinesse in Hand, and their Courage in the face of the Enemy; not omitting the gallant cryes of their Hounds, nor forgetting by which and which such a Bucke was slaine, and such a Stag pull'd downe passing not, without high commending the soring of their Hawkes, nor forgetting their statelinesse in Flight, with their fierce seizing on their Game. And then for variety as occasion is ministred, Carowse a health to their Mistresse and Loves in their Countrey.

The Prince as lovely as the best, and in his health as well able to performe whatsoever, had his greatest comfort in listening to the talke of Diphilus and Ephestris, two Noblemen of Trebisond which accompanied of pleasure Fabricius, the chiefe in Commission for their King Armatius, earnestly noting these two Nobles of Trebisond, as most delighted with their Persons and pleasant parly, heard Diphilus carowse a health to the Princesse Amoretta, whose Name the distressed Prince no sooner heard uttered, but the remembrance of that sweet object, his lives sole health and Mistresse of his fancies, so revived his dying spirits, that suddenly the beholders might well perceive his wan colour, which urged a troubled spirit to vanish, and those Vermillion dyed Roses, the wonted Badges and Ornaments of his sweet Face, challenge their former Interest, and for a time possesse them, restoring unto Nature her due, making his lovely Countenance as chéerefull to the Beholders as the glorious Sunne to the captived, whose Liberty being deprived have long béene debarred of all worldly delights, and seldome received Comfort from that heavenly essence. This chéerefull alteration in the Prince was noted of divers, whose Eares, albeit busied in listening to the discourses of these strangers; yet the eyes of his owne Attendants with dutifull care gave héed unto the Prince.

Amongst whose Government the care of the Princes health was committed, Machaon a man for his Art famous and learned in his profession (which was Physicke) who sometime was Tutor unto him, noting this sudden Change in the

Prince, suppesing verily by his Countenance that some of their Speeches did move him to content, comming suddenly to him, and grasping his arme, felt his Pulses beat so fiercely as in long time they had not done the like; which maze him more considerately learly to find the cause of this motion, enquire t he durst not, doubting to move him to Melancholy, having so often been denyed, but resting by him a while continuing with his Arme grasped, hee felt the Pulse more and more to worke, which gave him the more cause to find, if he might, the Originall from whence it came, and noting diligently unto which of the Company he most inclined his eyes, he might perceive Diphilus and his Ephestris earnestly busied in their former talke, which was I dare say, neither of Religion nor Government of the State, yet was it such as Michaon perceived highly contented the Prince, and desired it might long continue, so it were for his Loves sake.

Many pretty questions passed betweene them, and much variety, in whose prattle many a faire Lady was commended by one, and for Argument as highly of the other discommended, in which humour were divers of the Nobility of the Countrey, and Ladies of worth by name questioned of, and many a youthfull prancke by themselves committed, yet all in friendship and kindly taken, though harth trumps passed sometimes betweene them, which moved them to mirth. But when in earnest Ephestris forgetting himselfe, falling from one matter to another, and that there should be a Judgement given who for Beauty was the only Paragon, Ephestris for affection commended Medullina, Daughter and sole heire of Himerius King of Epire, in whose Fathers Court she had long beene trained up, giving the price from their owne Countrey Ladies. Whereat Diphilus as if he had beene the cheefe Champion of their Land, moved at his rash Censure, forgetting the Reverence of this place told him flatly his Judgement was false, and that he would avow it offering his glove in Combate, to maintaine that the Princesse Amoretta, and none but she deserved the Name of beautifull: for whose wisdome and other good graces, in any one, was not to be found in

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the Circuit of the Earth: And therefore Ephestus (quoth he) thou hast done overmuch wrong, to derogate the Honour due to Thracian Dames, especially our Peerelesse Amoretta, whose Face if beauteous Helena lived, for whom so many Thousands lost their lives, she might well resigne that Title of the only faire to her, and none but she, whose like liveth not.

Ephestus who was wise and well demeaned perceiving this Parly begun to fall likely to end in quarrell, noting likewise how the rest of the Company ceased their serious talke to attend them, with a smiling Countenance as one not pollett with choller, brake off his talke thus,

Why (my Lord) shall matter of so small moment cause Friends to jarre? What is Beauty, whereof wee have so long disputed, and so highly of us regarded? Nothing but a fading pleasure, an Ornament of the face which maketh the heart proud, and draweth the mind from every good Motion to many odious offences, whereby the honourable in committing dishonourable Actions are so blemished, that they become a common By-word to the veriest Drudge that Nature hath framed, Helena was faire and accounted the only of her time, yet who so much scorned? Cressida beautifull, yet who more false? If beauty be attended on with such shame as these two famous Women gained, why should we care who is beautifull? My sweet Diphilus mistake me not, if I have passed my Judgement rashly, for neither care I whose Name in that case is esteemed or defamed, but passe them by as things of no regard; only for Argument I have spoken more then either I regard or account of: Therefore let not this be any breach of our Friendship, for I protest, if thou wouldst say the white Swan were as blacke as the Raven, the Ocean dry, and ships floating on the Maine; I would affirme it, rather then our Friendship should be for such a matter discontinued.

Well Ephestus (quoth Diphilus) I find your kindnesse great, and will thanke you for it, but trust me, this glose may not serve your turne, for as you have spoken Herelle against Beauty, and maintained a Stranger before your home-borne Ladies,

Ladies, you shall either recant your Judgement before our Soverainne Princesse Amoretta, or receive such penance by your quest assigned, which I promise thee shall be all honourable Ladies.

O my Lord answered Ephestris, I hope I shall find your Honour more kind, then for so small an offence to deliver your Friend Prisoner at the Bar, where the parties shall be Judges, and my Jury such as all Lawes allow me to appeale from, if you should; and my fault such, as if my life were in their Tryall depending, I might well make my Testament and dispose of what I possesse, heartily desiring GOD to receive my Soule; for sure I am my body should not long enjoy Breath: For no greater Corrasive can be offered that Sex, then to attribute the Honour of such a prize to any one particuler, they all standing on tearmes of Beauty, as the Crow which thinkes her owne birds the fairest: So women how il-faced and wrinkled soever they be, may not endure to heare any commended, if happily they should heare it spoken by such as they dare not in Spæch displease, yet will their Countenance shew their hearts discontent, by scrowling of the Browes, hanging the Lip, or setting a swéet face as sugred as the Gall, or by some such outward Action or other shall you find where that nipt her, for which offence looked she never so highly, with Bell, Booke and Candle, you shall bee cursed, and never more come in her Pater Noster, how diepe soever you have bæne in her Creed.

Hold, hold, Ephestris (quoth Diphilus) two much of one thing is good for nothing. Thou hast play'd the excellent Orator. Who had thought your Lordships experience had bien such, for thereon I know you ground all your Authority: Author I am sure in Schooles you never read any, which have so highly abused that sacred Sex, sacred I may well call them my Ephestris, who are not honoured of Mortall Creatures, but of the Gods, and therefore in the higher account, and the more in regard, the greater thy offence, and the more grievous thy punishment.

To this pleasant Discourse the whole Assembly gave eare, and

and were greatly delighted therewith, yet to put them from it, and to end as pleasantly, Fabritius said:

My Lord Diphilus; what is your Honour become Beauties Champion? Farre was it from my thought that ever you would with such earnestnesse have defended our faire Ladies, but since I see you are so great an Advocate, I will cause you to have thankes for it at our returne, other reward I dare promise none. And you my Lord Ephestris, that so clarkely have depraved them, would I might be your Scholler whose experience is so great, Tully, Ovid, or Marcus Aurelius, that wrote most in their Dispraise never writ so largely. I must needs say as my Lord Diphilus, our Ladies are little beholding unto you for the danger committed in the same, the least is Heresie, and how heresie is to be punished your Honour knoweth: yet my Lord as I would gladly become a Peacemaker, and that Friends may not grow at odes, whereby any danger might happen to your Person, albeit the offence be not pardonable, yet the fault made in a forraigne Countrey ought there to have his Tryall. If it shall stands with your good liking, no Ladies present to heare your hard censure, your favour may be the more: and since I have by patience of this Honorable company intruded my selfe to speake in our Ladies cause, not being a fee'd Councellor for them, I will intreat these noble Gentlemen to give me leave and let me censure of the same, so it stands with your Lordships good pleasure.

Now truly, quoth Ephestris, I find your Lordship is kind, and more kind then I can desire or deserve, when I shall need your favour in matter of more import I will make bold; till when, I put you downe with Diphilus for one of my small Friends, for this matter I shall need small friendship, unlesse to bring your cause to better effect, you doe as many crafty people now a dayes use, to make small Conscience in selling mens Soules to the Divell for money; to Sweare what hee shall command them how falsе soever, to the impoverishing of many, whose good Hospitality and other good Neighbourhood was more then ever such base Villaines could

reach unto; if such a Companion you compare me with, or search out some subtill Lawyer that can by his quirkes and quiddities in Law make a bad matter good, and annointing the Judge with Unguentum Aureum, cause him to incline to the same my Cake is dough; If by such Subornations, or Swearing, or false Judgement, my Speach be wrested to your advantage.

Cease my Ephestris, this dread Heavens defend, for this offence thy punishment should be as thou deservest, much lesse that any sinister meanes should be used to bring thee to open Pennance: Yet good Ephestris, let me intreat thee, as in this Assembly thou hast unjustly given the prize of Beauty to Medullina, and therein thou hast wronged highly the only of the World by thy partiall Judgement, in derogating from her the Title of most excellent which is most Honourable, and no more then her worth requireth; Confesse but thy Fault and error in the same, and an end if thou lovest thy own good; refuse not this offer least worse befall thee then Actæon, or to Paris for his rash Judgement. Thou hast learned us in thine owne Exordium, that women are inspired with minds of Revenge. Be therefore by thy friends entreated before the punishment come upon thee, so maist thou keepe thee from much sorrow, for if no greater mischiefe fall upon thee, thou shalt be sure of more curses then thy weake Carkase can beare: For my Ephestris, in friendship I say this and warne thee as one that loveth thee, knowing their Inclinations, which as thy selfe confesseth is bent to Revenge: If so, as many as shall heare of this blasphemy, if they do thee no other ill their cursing thou shalt be sure of, and Womens Curses are as bad as the Curse of holy St. Gillian, which is said to be ten times worse then the Devils.

Treason, Treason, my Lords quoth Ephestris, if I have spoken Heresie this questionlesse is no better then Treason, and the Comparison so odious as may not be endured, the Devill and a Woman joyned in one as fit a match as may be made. Well my Lord, since in my error I have found you kind in favouring my fault, let us doe as all bribing Officers use, bear

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with me and I'le hold with thée: So by concealing my fault the lesse dangers shall happen unto you, if you refuse my kind offer, I come upon you with an old Proverb (ka me ka thée) or as children play (tell of me I'le tell of thée.) Well watcht my Lord Ephestris quoth the whole Company, but my Lords, let the further hearing of this matter rest till better opportunity, lest your tedious nesse breed trouble to my Lord the Prince, whose quiet I would not willingly offend.

My Honourable Lords answered the Prince, if these Discourses of those Noble men be pleasing to your Honours, assure you they are no way offensive unto me, I have troubled you from your better cheere to accept of a sick mans pittance, whereunto you are all so heartily welcome as to your owne Pallaces (and welcome) saith our Countrey Houshelders, is the best dish at their Feasts: If therefore my Lords you accept my welcome, I am the more honoured by you, which have so graciously vouchsafed me your companies.

Then turning to the Lord Diphilus he said, for you my good Lord, how much I acknowledge my selfe indebted to you I omit, and yield you as many thousand thankes for your pleasing Speech, as there were sillables in your words: You have like your selfe defended the weaker Sex, for the which were I the Princesse Amocetta, your challenge made in my cause should be bountifully rewarded: I am sorry my good Lord, my bad hap was such that I knew you no sooner. But if it shall stand with your Lordships pleasure, that during the time of your abode here to vouchsafe me your Company, so it may be no disparagement to your serious Affaires: Perswade your selfe, your welcome shall be no better in any place then unto me, for which kindnesse you should bind me unto your friendship.

Gracious Prince answered the Noble Diphilus thankes for your Princely favour and gracing me thus, which am not any way to doe your Majesty service, but wherein your Highnesse shall command I shall bee ready with all dutifulnesse to accomplish.

Leave these Speeches good my Lord, quoth the Prince, and offering duty where friendship is requested, and granting my

suit let me enjoy thy company, so shalt thou command Armacius for ever as a friend.

The greater part of those Noble strangers, whom matters of most importance called away, after humble thankes given for their Royall Entertainment, wishing health and all happinesse unto his Excellence, they commit him to his rest.

Machaon which had endured the end of all these Battles, and perceiving that this talke was altogether frivolous and not worthy the hearing moved him to delight: He began diligently to enter each particuler discourse of Diphilus and Ephestris, and considerately to note each severall passion of the Prince: So farre searched this skilfull Physitian into every particuler, that canvasing it throughly he noted his speciall feature, and how his colour came (and vanished) yea how much his heart was possessed with joy, when he heard the Princess Amoretta named: The working of his pulses made Machaon imagine the cause of his disease, yet had no assurance thereof, and to enquire it of the Prince was in vaine, for that he had so often denyed the same: Wherefore he concealing his thoughts in hope to worke meanes for his Recovery, and finding those cinders which were like to consume him, (and the rather) if he could procure Diphilus to accompany him. Thus leaving the Prince to his quiet, and Machaon to his care for recovering his health, returne we to the aged weake King.

The King whose long sickenesse nine care of his Wife and Sons health, whom he loved most zealously, being extreamly vexed, and greatly weakened of his body when Physicke had done what was possible, and small hope to recover him, in the midst of his passions when all hopes was past, but only the comfort of him who by his word raiseth the dead from the Grave, to this Charondas receives Comfort by his kingly neighbours friends, whose Letters when he had by Councell perused, and with Regard and Advice noted each kind Offer, with their perswading reasons (albeit) he could hardly digest the same: Yet considering how fraile men are, and that our cares of Terreine joyes are to be fastened to that Celestiall Commander, which relieveth all those that seeke him, he received

ceived himselfe, and like a faithfull Souldier taking hold of the Promise in holy Writ so often repeated, hee cast care of Wife, Child, and Kingdome upon him that first gave it him, and by whose Providence he so long enjoyed them: Taking his chiefest care to gratifie those his friends, by whose Counsell he was urged to the heavenly Comfort. And those Honourable Nobles for their paines, who wishing to be with their friends in their owne Countries, attend his Highnesse pleasure for answer: Which he took order should with such speed be dispatched, as possible might any way be used.

Armatius, whose heart was on his blasphemy, bowing his Love wholly to the Princesse Amoretta, was so delighted in recounting her praise as nothing could be so pleasing, but as all sorts of men infected with that Agony (if their Love bee faithfull) are enclined to some jealousie, so this monstrous Basiliske, whose poyson infecteth the veines and consumeth the heart, without wisdome governe the mind, as by this Prince notably appeared: Who in his idle thoughts calling to mind the praises of Diphilus, and the challenge made in the defence of the Princesse Amoretta, as Love endureth no corrivall, so Armatius striken with the sting of jealousie began to conceive many unhonourable thoughts of Diphilus, supposing Amoretta was his Love, and that by Diphilus his joyes in her Love, and hope of Favour, should bee frustrate and of no account: With much matter more then ever was by Diphilus imagined, how largely soever his speech was used in the Princesse behalfe, to procure their delights and move Ephetius to choller: Notwithstanding no reason might perswade where jealousie had given Judgement, for the Prince in this jealousie sought no meanes, but revenge of him that never committed the least thought of evill against him.

When Revenge in this Princes heart was thus imprinted, and rage and jealousie set downe his death, an honourable motion more befitting his Grace then Rigour, moved by the inspiration of the eternall God, withdrew him from this base attempt, he called to mind the Honour of his house, the Love of those Princes, their bordering Neighbours, by whose com-

mand Diphilus came into this Countrey, the scandall so bloody a Fact deserved, and what continuall Ignomy would redound unto him and his Progeny for ever: Accusing himselfe of great Impiety, he exclaimed on his Follies in this manner.

Blush Armatius at thy base thoughts, and so much sorrow for thy pretended mischiefe against this Noble Stranger, as if thou hadst shed the blood of a thousand Innocents: hast thou from thy Cradle disdained to offer wrong to the most Interiour, and wilt now begin with Murther of a Noble Man? Knowest thou not, that to adde to his head one haire is more then the greatest Prince can doe? And wilt thou seeke his Life that never had thought of ill against thee? Hath thy father lived so many yeares honourably reputed amongst them ever in tranquility, and by thy cruell slaughtering thy friend shall their Peace be broken, was it not for his Comfort and thy good, these strangers came into this Countrey? And for their kindnesse canst thou reward them with such Despight? Thou envi'st the happinesse of a toward Gentleman, for thou knowest not what, (say he loved the Princesse) what is that to thee, Interest hast thou none to debarre him from it. Amoretta thou knowest not but by heare-say, he a Noble man of her Countrey, a toward Gentleman, and worthily may obtaine her. Nature hath made him of the mould of the Earth, whereof thou art framed, the Beggar is as subject to amerous Passions as the Prince. Amoretta is beautifull, wise, faire, and in the principall time of her flourishing estate, lovely as the Dew on the sweet Roses. Diphilus valiant, well featured; wise and toward in all honourable Actions; All which are Loadstarres to draw Ladies to love, and Amoretta is but a Woman though a Princesse. If then thou hast neither feare of God, or Law of humanity to perswade thee from so great a mischiefe, yet let his kindnesse offered thee, which hath beene as ever thou requirest, be of some regard. The fiercest Beasts seldome harme those whose society they use, and wilt thou be found more cruell then unreasonable Creatures: No, no, Armatius, let dye thy malice to Diphilus who

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is innocent, and farre from any thought of pretended evill against thée, for so much the more shall his blood with extremity be revenged, by how much the more thou injuriest him, yea rather chuse to dye a thousand deaths if every life were a Legion of Lives, then hold so base a mind. Thou hast long (though to thy great griefe and much sorrow) concealed thy love to Amoretta, and now wilt thou murther him that wisheth thée well for her Love.

No, no, Armatus, let Honour be the marke whereat thou aymest, account Death more precious then life with ignominy, Honour by murther blemished is such a stain as can never be raced out, but the continuall ignominy thereof will remain while there is any Being: Yea, and what is more to be regarded, the welfare of thy Subjects on whom the blood of so Noble a man will bée with great Effusion revenged, and thy Countrey like those ruinous Monuments of Troy layd waste and desolate, which was spoyled for a fact nothing so odious.

Sithence thou hast all these Reasons to reduce thée from this vile thought, daily no longer with thy shadow, as in the Tale of Æsop thou maist read of the Dog; who moved with envy of anothers welfare, not only hazarded his life but what else he had in possession, Though the Comparison be ridiculous, yet the example may move thée to feare thine own fall. For if the Gods be so just in punishing such offences in unreasonable Creatures, how much more shalt thou be plagued, whom God hath not only endued with Reason, but invested with Titles of Majesty and Honour; whose life should shine on the earth as the glorious Sunne, and by thy vertues draw such as live under thy Government from their desire to commit evill; For such as is the Pastor, such will be the Flock: If the Prince be vertuous, the Subject will feare to offend, if he be vicious, who will care to live in obedience of him, or his Lawes. Thou seest Armatus, the perill, surcease therefore thy base thoughts (and as Diphilus is Noble) where thou hast without desert béene jealous, become jealous from envying him that no way wished thée evill; Admit him to thy friendship, to him thy kindnesse may be acceptable, and in us-

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sing such favours, maist thou in time learn the Truth of what thou now suppossest. If Diphilus love Amoretta he cannot be so secret, but in some sort or other thou shalt attain to the knowledge thereof: And as thou shalt in conversing with him find his Honourable dealings, so maist thou either trust him or refuse him: If Amoretta hath vowed her love unto him, seeke to master thy affection and wish them joy, if not, his friendship may the sooner bring thee to thy Desires, by acquainting the Princesse with thy Love, in explaining the Passions for her thou hast endured.

Amoretta (saith the Worlds report) is beautifull, wise, and honourably demeaned, and therefore cannot be cruell: Her Father a King beloved of all that have heard of him, whose kindnesse hath been such to thy Father and thee as thou canst not deserve; If such love remaine in the Parents the Children should not hate: Then fondling, if thou hast wronged thy selfe in concealing thy griefe, accuse thy own follies; and condemne not thy friends of evill, nor let thy jealousie blame Diphilus who never had thought of pretended evill against thee; If thou faile in thy Love blame none but thy selfe, spare to speak, spare to speed. Towards never were Loves Champions, nor fainthearted Swads never obtained Ladies love; Women though never so base will bee sued, sought after, and courted with many Devises allured to winne them, and their loves obtained, as sundry meanes sought to continue it.

A Novice art thou Armatus, & never came to know what many a hardy Man at Armes hath endured, Histories are divers, which shew the extreams of Princes and famous Conquerors, that they endured through Love, yet hast thou never read of any that ever wooed by silence, courted their Mistresses with imaginations, or obtained their love being mute: Longer maist thou smother thy griefe, which may carelesse consume thee: Fire suppressed burneth with more vehemency; And Love concealed consumeth the intrals and slayeth remedilesse. How long may thy shoe wring thy foot, before any that look thee in the face can tell where it pincheth thee. Many of meane birth have obtained the Love of Princes and Ladies of great

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worth, and by daring to attempt wedded and bedded them. If the Ignoble have had such successe in love, rouze thee dastard from this loathsome Cabinet, arm thee with hopes of thy Princesse favour, and with courage seeke to obtain it: Let griefe no longer oppresse thee, but like the Son of thy renowned Father shew thy selfe; Let not daring love which by many good motions may be banquished, overthrow thee by subjecting thy selfe overmuch unto it, but in the face of the Enemy shew thy selfe; And there by prowesse purchase such Renowne, as the report of thy Valour may gain thee the Love of her thou most desirest. Womens loves for the most part are setled on the Valiant and such as adventure, holding in regard such as by their Valour will maintain their Honours, bearing in triumph their Favours in the field, and gaining honour in their tilts. If, thus Armatus should be thy thoughts, hold thee there and no doubt of good successe: Amoretta is but a woman though a Princesse, thou Son to a King, and no way her Inferiour. Then continue this resolution, and Amoretta may in time, as well seeke thy Favour, as the Noble Amazonian Alexander's Love.

Chap. II.

How *Diphilus* one of the Nobles of *Trebisond*, comming to take his leave of the Prince *Armatus*, playing a game at Chess, unto whom *Diphilus* giving the Mate, the Prince *Armatus* on the suddaine strucke him with the Chesse-bord, and what then followed.

Scantly had he ended this tedious Premeditation, when Word was brought unto him by one of his Pages that the Lord Diphilus was come to visite him, which did put him from all further Imaginations at that time.

Diphilus no sooner came to his presence but Armatius with a blushing countenance bad him welcome, ashamed of his rash suspicion, yet concealing the same as he might

night, framed such kind speech as her best could, the better to assure his welcome, not sparing oftentimes to render great and hearty thanks for his kindnesse in comming to visit him; and more, to shew how glad he was of his company, he called to rise, which he had not done long before but for necessity of making his bed. Thus when long time was spent betweene them, discoursing of many matters to both their contents, Armatius called for meate; where to accompany Diphilus he received more sustenance then he had in many dayes before, to the great joy of his Attendant Machon, who by Messengers certified the King and Queene thereof, who joyed and were not a little contented at this Report.

Dinner ended, and Diphilus with the Prince devising to beguile the time, both suddenly to leave him, called for a Chessebord wherewith they sported a while, Armatius whom griefe of mind procured sone to melancholy, losing two or three fair games became very impatient, to aggravate whose Choller and make his fury the more, Diphilus playing for cunning to make game, tooke his Queene and gave checke to his king, whereat the Prince forgetting both himselfe and those motions so lately by him mooved, first violently striking him with the board, ranne fiercely on him, and taking him by the throat cryed mainly out thus; Villaine quoth he, shamest thou not to rob me of my Lady, my Love, my life and Soules comfort, but to my teeth must check me therewith in mine own Countrey. (Base Fugitive) thou shalt heare me no more therewith, for by thy miserable death will I recover to mine owne possession, my Love, my Lady, my Queene, yea in despight of thy head Amorena shall be my Mistresse, sweet Princesse, the only Soveraigne of my thoughts.

Machon and his Noble Attendants seeing this Friendship lately possest so suddenly forgotten, taking him with many a dae from Diphilus were not a little perplexed, but as most all themselves, having never seen the like could imagine no cause, greatly doubting that suddenly he was growne lunatick.

Diphilus vexed at this hard usage of the Prince, was no sooner freed from him, but in great choller would have departed;

ted; protesting to bee revenged for this Discurtesie offered him. Affirming that his enticing speeches in colour of kindnesse, was to no end but to draw him from his Honourable Friends to murther him.

Machaon carefull what might ensue hereof, weighing each occasion which might hereat be taken, besought Diphilus of that Love hee bare the King his Master which had used them honourably, of his love to his owne King, and all that might be imagined to conceive of this wrong offered as of no such pretended matter, as he supposed: But rather with patience to consider the long extreame sickenesse of the Prince, and how subject by reason of his Infirmity hee was unto Melancholy, undertaking on his Faith and honest Reputation, howsoever the occasion grew it was not in malice: Assuring him, the Prince when he should call to mind this unkind Action, would with griefe lament it, and sorrowing for the same submit himselfe, craving hearty forgivenesse for his rashnesse.

Machaon vexed at the heart for these unkind dealings of the Prince, intreating his Associates to perswade Diphilus, went himselfe to the Prince, and after pitifull speech to his Grace, recounted unto him in what evill part Diphilus tooke this abuse by him offered; humbly beseeching him, as hee esteemed the love of his Princely Father, and the honour and Reputation of his Country to acknowledge in some courteous manner the wrong committed and so reconcile himselfe.

Arcadius whose passion had not yet left him, albeit in his health none might more perswade him then Machaon, yet hearing him preach Repentance, being in this humour forgot their passed Friendship, and moved with his talke, albeit it was used for his good; with a looke as gastly as a Ghost risen from the grave, drew neare Machaon and laying hands on him, had like to have spoyled him, had hee not made the more speed away.

Diphilus understanding what had been offered the Aged man, and hearing in what regard the Prince held his Love, passing by his choller, began with great heavinesse to lament the Princes his agony, and sorrowing for him besought the

heavens Creator to comfort the Prince as himselfe would wish in the like extremity. And thus leaving Machaon and the Nobles to their charge, departed.

The Nobles whose griefe was not little, having hearts overcharged with sorrow, thinking it not convenient to leave him alone, doubting some worse matter should happen unto him, went to visite the Prince cheerefully, enquiring of his welfare, which with so good a Countenance as he could use was kindly answered of the Prince; who having past the extremity of his fury, calling to mind those notable abuses offered his Friends, greatly lamenting his folly therein, he said.

Chap. III.

How the Prince *Armatim* calling to mind the wrong offered the Lord *Diphilus*, sorrowed for it, accusing himselfe of great Ingratitude for the same, in dishonouring his State and Country. The Nobles are intreated honourably, and with rich Guifts depart, *Armatim* recovereth in short time some strength and doth abandon his sicke Lodging.

WHere, where my honourable Friends, may I hide my head to shelter me from the worlds reproach, who void of all reason, more brutish then the savage Beast, have sought to murther my dearest friends. Oh, how might I blush with shame, and ashamed of my evill committed, never behold the Faces of those whom I have so evill entreated: What fury bewitched me to this mischiefe? Oh! what divelish Sorcery enchanted my spirits and captivated my sences, so to offend thee Lord Diphilus? Who of thy zealous affection and courtesie came to visite me, delighting so greatly in thy company as I did. And thou the Father of gravity, my greatest hope in the world; Machaon thou whose honest care and Love to me hath been ever-showne from my Cradle. Oh Machaon, how ungratefull have I been, rewarding thy good

with

with the hazard of thy blood. Woe is me unhappie, and thrice unhappie, that I have lived to behold the light of this Day, wherein past my selfe I have so highly offended. Pardon, pardon my Lord Diphilus as thou art Honourable, and thou Machaon, whose aged yeares I have so highly offended: Forgive my amisse and remit that evill I have committed against thee, or let me never behold the dayes light againe. Why should I live, whom mine owne Conscience so highly accuseth of such Impiety? Will not the Fowles of the ayre soaring over thy head as thou walkest, cry out (ungratefull Armatius) that wouldest have murthered thy friends: Each creature that God hath made will exclaime against thee for this evill, following thee with cryes of horrour to thy everlasting reproach. Therefore unhappy Armatius, since by thy owne doings this reproach is happened upon thee, whereby for ever thou art dishonoured and no man hereafter will dare to use any familiarity with thee, no not one, from the Prince to the Begger, (live not, live not thou Armatius) but let that hand that committed the evill finish thy Life, which living, can never be unremembred. In this fury resolving to have mischiefe fed himselfe, his Nobles taking him in their Armes, with such comfortable speeches as they could pacified him, who seeing his sorrowfulnesse were Partakers of his griefe, and much lamented his extremity, as men might for their Soveraigne. But casting off care, and seeking the best for their quiet they could, they laid him in his Bed, where with solemn Musicke they procured him to sleepe. Where for a time I leave him.

Time that findeth all things, hath now wrought an end of the Kings affaires for the dispatch of the Ambassadours, whom the King hath great entertainment & Jewels of high Estate, so rewarded as they all had cause to speake of his royall bounty. The Ambassadours receiving their Letters, and the time appointed for their departure, their Ships with the Kings cost replenished, and all other Necessaries: Diphilus who had bene often solicited by Machaon to visit the Prince, & by his report, whose word was of account with all that had know-

leage of his simple dealings, was perswaded of the Princes sorrow for the wrong offered him. Wherefore that it might appeare unto Armatius he departed not in displeasure, but that he had forgotten all wrongs offered, kindly before his departure came to take his leave. Whereupon the courteous Demeanor of the Prince, who manifested his griefe by the abundance of sighes which he powred forth, they were reconciled, and an inviolable league of Friendship vowed between them: Which with solemne Oathes they protested should never faile in either of them.

The hast of the Noble Ambassadours who desired to be with their Loves at home, is more now then Diphilus wished: But what must be, shall be how loath soever. Wherefore after many friendly gratulations between them, and great gifts of the Prince on his new Amico bestowed, they take leave each of other, Diphilus solemnely praying for the Princes health, and Armatius wishing him all happinesse. Thus all things fitted by the Kings command, they were honourably conducted unto the Port, where their Ships ready furnished attended their comming: Where they had not long stayed but a faire wind to serve their turnes God sent them; and they embarqued themselves each one for his severall Countrey, and the Nobles returned to the Court; where to their carefull regard of their King and Countries benefit, we leave them, to let you know further of the Prince, who is troubled as you shall heare.

The Prince whom Nature had formed so exquisit in lineaments of Body as could be required, having Wisdome and Valour inferiour to none, when he had considered with great Wisdome from point to point the extremity of his Estate, and found that his Disease was grievous and so great, that he rather desired death then life, in that Agony to be continued; weighing all dangers which might befall him, in seeking secretly for such help as by his own Industry he could procure: With the pleasures and hearts content, the obtaining of his Loves delight would bring him; resolutely determined as much as he might to cherish himselfe: and exhorting him-

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selfe in habit of a Traveller unknowne of any man, so soon as his strength would permit him he departed his Countrey towards Trebisond, and either gaine his Lady or try in short time the ficklenesse of his Fortune: Hazarding all on this resk, he secretly procureth all his Jewels and such Summes of money as he could: And by little and little recovering himselfe used his wonted familiarity amongst the Nobles and Courtiers, which did cause no small content and hearts joy in the King, Queene and Commons; yea, such was the generall rejoycing of the whole people in the Realme for his recovery, that there was not one, which shewed not some signe of gladnesse by his outward appearance.

Chap. IIII.

How *Armatius* recovering health, sought opportunity to leave the Court, his Kingly Father and Mother, to see the *Trebisond* Court, which suddenly he obtained, and what happened him in his Journey.

So there is not the clearest day which is not overwhelmed with some Clouds, so lasted this joy amongst these loving subjects not long: For Armatius continuing his determination, conveyed his Summes of Money and Jewels into a Grove within the Parke, neare the Court, at such severall times (only to effect his pretended purpose) as hee would those to be solitary, wrought so close, and with such discretion that he was altogether unperceived of any Man.

Each thing wrought to his content, secretly in the evening his Companions by him appointed to keepe the Courtiers from idlenesse, by such pastimes as he had devised, as Pasking, Warriors, Dicing, and other Recreations whom he refused to accompany, alleaging that he might not be long absent from the King, and that his sport determined was to retreate the Queene, who since her sicknesse was very melancholy, which, coyned excuse passed for currant, as what was it they would not credit which he should report. Ha-

Having thus politickly fitted all things, Supper ended, and every one attending the beginning of the sports and pastimes, Armatius who had more strings to his Harpe then one, had no care but how to convey himselfe from their presence, which he tooke opportunity to doe, telling the Queen Mother he had given his word to bee one of the Maskers, which shee being glad of, as rejoycing to remove his melancholy by any means, suffered him to depart.

But too soone alas, gave she credit to her friends Speeches, which turned them all to great sorrow and heavinesse: For Armatius minding lest what they supposed he most joyed in, conveyed himselfe with all the haste he possibly could into the Parke, where his Footeman attended his comming with his Horse, on which he was no sooner mounted, to drive in suspicion or jealous thoughts of his late Travaile from his Man, he commanded him presently, to speed him with all the haste he might unto the House of a Knight dwelling not farre off, with a devised Message, pretending the businesse to be of great weight and importance, and straighly charging him not to depart from thence before his comming, which should be the next night.

With this Commandement the Servant departed, least suspecting the losse of so bountifull a Master was so neare: But the Prince whose content was, in beholding the Idea of that Patagon whom Fame had so extolled, had his heart fired with desire, that he thought every day a yeare, and every minute a Moneth, untill he beheld the excellency of Natures worke, the only perfected worke of Beauty, and the Soveraigne Goddesse of his thoughts: Of which Armatius having no small regard, pondring to be stilled of the thing, and loth to lose that opportunity, posteth with all speed to the Grove where his Coyne and Jewels lay, where the better to escape the suspicion of Officers in his passage, stealing the Dress he attired himselfe in the Habit of a Marchant, which he had ready provided for that purpose: And to making small way he traveleth not his Coursers pace, nor spareth any Horse flesh, untill hee came to the Port where hee intended to embarque himselfe.

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Heroick Champion, well doſt thou ſhew thy ſelfe a Gentleman, for vnder the habit of a Marchant Gentility cannot bee hid, no more Eſtate can diminiſh the Noble, nor aduerſe Fortune whatſoeuer; but as Gold is ſome brought from the baſer Metals to his forme by the skilfull Finer: So are the Noble knowne by their Vertues.

Heroick Champion, I haue cauſe to honour thee for thy loue and forwardneſſe, as alſo for thy Countrey, which (without flattering thee or any there abiding) I loue for your Kings ſake. But to our matter, thou ſeeſt (my deare Champion) the millions of cares heaped vpon my gray head through the Oppreſſion of this Heathen Prince, whereby I am made more miſerable then the meaneſt Subiect within my Dominions; and the more is my miſery by recounting the wretched Eſtate of my loving Subiects, whom I hold as deare as my life, and with that by reſigning my Life and Crown I might free them from Bondage; were it nothing elſe the Tyrant required. But toward Gentleman, whoſe loue (wretch that I am) I cannot requite, my Daughter (O ſorrow worſe then death to recount) Amoreta, the only Solace of my Life and lifes ſole good, in whoſe Weale conſiſteth my good, and by violence offered her what good can betide me? She, ſhe, my dear Champion, it is, that driueth my Soule into ſo deepe a Hell, that almoſt forgetting my ſelfe, liuing I daily dye; only recounting the miſeries ſhe ſhould endure if the Tyrant triumph in our ouerthrow: But he that in extreames ſendeth Comfort hath reuiued me, and relieued my ouercharged heart by thy kind offer; whoſe courage and hope of victory being ſuch, as thou muſt hazard thy deareſt blood for my Daughters freedom. Thankes (my good Champion) is all that I can yet yield thee; yet to adde more courage to thy Noble mind, fighting for vs and our Honour, my Daughter for whoſe good thou aduenturest ſhall inueſt thee with the Order of Knight-hood, the firſt honour that euer ſhe gaue to Man of Armes, and ſhall pray for thy good ſucceſſe: So calling for the Princeſſe, who was ſo diſcontented that nothing could be pleaſing vnto her, who being come before him, after her humble duty done deſirous

to know her Kingly Fathers will, hee recounted the Zeale of the Marchant unto her, who had not only offered his goods, but also his proper Life to try in Battell his Fortunes against their Enemy: Wherefore Amoretta (quoth the King) for that he hath so voluntarily offered the same for thy sake, and I relying on my God and in his Providence have accepted him for my Champion, by thy hand he shall receive the honour of Knight-hood, his Title, Loves Heroick Champion: And so prosper he in his honourable Action, and in all other as we wish, and himselfe desireth.

The Princesse, which divers times had noted the Courtly behaviour of Armatius was not a little pleased at her Fathers Motion; as one that in hearty good will wished him better then Modesty would suffer her to utter; yet harkening to her Fathers Speeches she beheld him with more gracious Countenance, and viewing the Lineaments of his person, each grace well regarded she inwardly bewayled his hard happe, that the Gods had framed him of no better Reputation then a Marchant, who might well deserve the Title of a King, put from her Memento by recounting her Fathers words, pausing thereon sometime, with a modest blushing Countenance, she said.

Kind Sir, whose honourable Service offered for my Fathers good, and all our Weales, his Subjects; if I yield you not such Recompence as your deserts doe merit, blame mee not of discurtesie, which have no better knowledge of you, but accept the hearty thankes of a Virgin, unto whom I hold my selfe so farre indebted, as I can no other way recompence then wishing your good, yet in earnest of better good refuse not at my hands to receive the honour of Knight-hood. seeing my Lords pleasure is such: And drawing his Rapier the Prince kneeling, shee invested him with the Order, by Name of the Heroick Champion, and pulling a Jewell of rich price from her Crowne, she tyed the same in a most beautifull Scarffe, beseeching him to weare it for her sake, wishing all happy Fortunes to his Attempts.

The new adopted Knight, whose heart over-joyed for so great a favour received from the Saint his heart wholly honoured,

noured, with many thankes dutifully returned, kissed the Princesse hand, vowing himselfe her humble Servant, and in all places to maintaine her modest beauty and Princely honour with his dearest Blood.

The time thus passed, word was brought to the King that Dinner was ready whereby they were interrupted, whom for a time we leave to their repast, discoursing diversly at table, of the valour of the Heroick Champion, whose towardnesse the King admired, which made his hopes the greater: Not doubting but his Champion would prove no lesse valiant in Armes then they expected. At which the Princesse glozied not a little, and the Nobles pleased at both their comforts, passed the time with more content then many dayes before, whom we leave to their mirth, and the Heroick Champion to the ordering of his affaires.

Chap. IX.

How the *Carmanian* King after hee had spent some time in sorrow for the Princesse departure, exiled himselfe from the Court Pilgrim-like attired, in search of his Sonne the Prince, the Queene with griefe for the King and her Sonne dyed.

THe Carmanian King exiled himselfe from his Court inhabite of a Pilgrim, travelled many unknowne places in search of his Sonne, of whom hee could heare no tydings, neither could Machaon for all the industry he could use, attaine to any knowledge of him his heart so much desired; through which the heavinesse both of the Peeres and Commons were daily increased. And no marvell when their Soveraigne the Mirrour of all Princely courtesie, had thus unknowne in the declining of his Age, when his yeares required rest, banished himselfe, his Country, loving Subjects, and what else hee enjoyed; the griefe of which so oppressed the heart of the Queene, that nothing might yeld her any comfort. But dispairing in continuall sorrow, utterly abandoning

ning the worlds comfort, to take her comforter whose dwellings are in the highest Heavens, she yielded her due to death, whose Funerals with the effusion of many brinish teares of the Nobles, and zeale of full lamentations of her Subjects, was performed with such honour as to her Estate required: Whose Obsequies finished, Machaon regarding the benefit of the Common-weale & the Princes good, of whom their hope was to learne knowledge, used so kind perswasions to the whole Estate in a Parliament holden on purpose, that the Government was delivered by consent unto six of the chiefest Nobles, who were solemnely sworne to maintaine the Dignities of the Crowne, in absence of the King and his Son, unto whom being lawfull Heires to the same, they should resign their Titles whensoever they should challenge the same. Now Gentlemen leave we these distressed people, lamenting their Kings absence and the Queenes Death, to tell you of Loves Heroick Champion.

Chap. X.

How the Knight *Pheander*, having mustered his Companies, made suite to the Princesse, that shee with the King might be pleased to take view of them, and of their gracious acceptance of his forwardnesse, and honourable Favours shewne unto him. And how a Herald, from the Campe of *Otoman* arrived at the Court.

THis gallant Prince, the hope of Trebisond, carefull of his Honour, and not unmindfull of his new Mistris, whose Love was the marke he aymed at, hoping by accomplishing this Victory against the Soldano, to gaine that place of Reputation with her that he desired: For the better accomplishing of which, he proclaimed by Sound of Trumpet, that all such as would in that Action adventure their Lives with him, should bountifully be considered, all Estates from the Cavaliere to the Mercenary, caused many to offer

offer him their Sons, so that in short time he had gathered more able men then ever in so small warning were seene; such was the Love that his beauty had gained among all Estates, that of their kindnes many repaired more then for mony, although the thought thereof is able to draw the Coward to fight, so highly was this Stranger honoured. The diligence was such of this Prince, that in short time he had his Companions such were so furnished, as he lived not in those Territories that ever saw the like.

All things furnished for the field, he became an earnest Sutor to the Princesse his Sister to procure the King to view his Army, which with small sute she obtained for him, gracing him with all the Favours she might, more delighting in him then in all the men that ever she saw.

The time appoynted for his Muster, after he had given directions to all such Leaders and other Officers what course to take with their severall charge, they were conducted to the place appoynted by himselfe, who mounted on a Stately Courser, passed on through the City, his Captaines attired in Gascoin Coates of watched Velvet, having on the Breast and Backe embossed with Goldsmiths worke, a Mayden head according to his device on his Armes, with the colour of his Sisters Scarffe: Every under Officer in like Sutes of Satten, his Mercenary men in Jackets, Hose and Hats coloured alike, which caused the Beholders to admire the stranger more then their Princesse.

When the King beheld this Mirrour of honour, least thinking he was Sonne to his loving Friend the Carmanian King, and had with great delight viewed each severall Officer and their charge, with their Order of March, and ranging in battell, all accomplished in such Warlike manner as seldome hee had seene: And withall noted his person, with his bravery in Armour, in gallant sitting a Horse and managing the same, his charging, running, and other signes of ensuing good, giving him great thankes, he caused him to dismisse his Companies for that time to attend his pleasure at ꝑ Court which he caused suddenly to be done, attending the Kings pleasure at

the Court as he was commanded; The newes of his arrivall being brought to the Princesse, who had but scene with what cost and rare Devices each thing by her Servant was performed, judging likewise that his Love to her was some cause by his Colours and Devices, willing to know how graciously the same was accepted, she came into the Presence; where finding her Knight, after she had with a kind and loving Conget saluted him, calling him to a bay Windowe with a modest and comely Grace, thée said:

Sir, how much I find my selfe indebted unto you, for your profered Service and forwardnesse in performing the same, I will not say that in time what wants in me to accomplish, my Kingly Father will recompence, who hath scene and well noted your diligence used for his safety with your great Cost and charge which hée will not forget. In the meane time (good Servant) for so I will henceforth call you, so you will vouchsafe to accept of the Title; I will pray for your good successe and happie victory, whereby your Renowne may passe the furthest parts of the Earth, and our Countrey by your prowesse delivered from Heathen thraldome.

Vertuous Princesse (answered Loves Heroick Champion) might it please your Excellence to conceive of my well meaning; as my desire is to deserve, my Fortune might be compared with the happiest that liveth. For on the Faith of a Souldier, and by the Majesty of that Saint my heart most adoreth, there is none breathing Life under the celestiall Globe that shall command the simple Service of Pheander; but your Majesty, bound thereunto by your Princely favours.

Enough my good Servant (quoth the Princesse) I take your word having great cause to beléeve you seeing your forwardnes: But good Servant, if I might crave that favour to know the Saint unto whom your Devotions are bent, I would be so bold to offer a Virgins prayer at her shrine for your good successe; The King overhearing their talke brake off their discourse thus: How now Madame, have you that Gentleman at shrift (if so) and that his Confession deserve a sharpe pennance yet be good to him hée may in time amend.

Your

Your Grace (quoth the Princess) mistakes your selfe, your Highness knoweth I never tooke Orders; therefore my authority is not to Absolve, and if by presumption I offend therein: I doubt the Fathers of our Church would reward me thereafter. But to let your Majesty know the truth, perceiving the desire her hath to doe you Service, I was bold to give him thankes; further recompence I leave to your Excellence, who at your pleasure may better reward him.

Thou hast well said (Daughter, quoth the King) putting me in mind what I should doe, lest forgetting my Honour to such as well deserve. I be reckoned amongst the number of those Princes who with faire words and kind lookes feed their Subjects, so long as they have either Patrimony or other to doe them service, to the utter overthrow of their Posterities for ever, and they so farre in debt as they dare not shew their heads, then shall they get (perhaps) some Suite worth a hundred pounds a yeare, that hath consumed many Thousands, maintaining a brave Port for his Princes honour. What said I? a hundred pounds a yeare: nay, nor that without the favour of such as be chiefest in Authority, and are neare the Prince, whose good-will if they can procure (it may be) they shall obtaine some small thing, scarce able to maintaine the Port of a good Yeoman; for I tell thee such must be pleased or else let the Princes mind be forward to reward them, and by their Bounty relieve their wants, their good Natures by perswasion of such as thinke all too much which goeth from themselves, and such as they please to bestow it upon shall be abused.

This have I heard Gentle Knight and grieve, that Honour should so unkindly be rewarded: Or that any Subject should forget his Duty so much, as for his owne lucre cause those that spend their Blood in their Countries defence, their Land and Possessions with empty Purses and heavie hearts, like men forlorne to walke the streets: exclaiming on them that should see their Service better rewarded, to the dishonour of the State they live in.

This my Heroick Champion I often recount, lest in forgetting

getting it I fall to Infamy by committing the like; but hee that gave me Reason to know good and to follow it, will never suffer me to fall into so great a folly, nor let me live to forget those maimed brave men, that venture for my good and my Countries weale: For while I may breath the Souldier shall be honoured in Trebisond, and shall reape the Reward of his merits, neither shall these Droanes, which in such times of perils hide their heades, sucke the honey off my Garland. Like minds I wish all Princes with carefull eyes to looke into the doings of such, who as the Moath devoureth the fine cloath, consume their Princely reputation, & draw the Commons (who by duty are bound to love) from their Allegiance.

Whilest the King was in this Speech, word was brought him that a Herald from the Campe attended his pleasure at the Gate, requiring parly, which he suddenly granted commanding him to be brought to his presence: This unhallowed Pagan who neither feared God, nor was endued with any humanity, came unto the Kings presence, with a shamelesse countenance used this peremptory Speech.

CHAP. XI.

How the Ambassadour from the *Turke*, delivering a very peremptory Message from his Lord, in disgrace of the *Trebisond* King, and dishonour of his Princely Daughter: The *Heroick Champion* at his great Sute, obtaineth the Kings Favour to issue forth upon them; his Honourable exhortation, and Speeches to his Companies, with their forwardness.

King of Trebisond, Ottoman Barbarossa great Commander of the Empire, and Generall of those royall Armies sendeth thee by me, thy choyce either of Warres or Peace (Peace) if thou deliver thy Daughter unto him, whom hee hath so often required, yet whereas his Love unto her hath been such to make her his Wife, his Noble mind despiseth her so much, as his Highnesse will never so much honour her, but in despight of thee, and to abate the pride of that disdainfull Dame, hee will

use

ule her as his Concubine, and when he shall have taken the flowre of her Virginity give her to the basest villaine in his Campe. Thou knowest my Embassage: Deliver her and life, or by me returne thy resolute answer, for it shall not be many dayes, ere thy City shall flame with Fire about thine Eares.

The King heard at this unexpected Message, could not answer him so much was his choller, yet with as much patience as Nature would permit, he said: Pagan I have heard, and with with paine endured thy Lords peremptory Message: And that thou and that Curre from whom thou commest, shall well know the great difference betwixt a Christian and him, and that he understand how honourable we hold the Law of Armes, I pardon thee thy Life, which thy presumption doth require sharply to be punished. For answer to thy Lord, this briefly say, his Threats I regard not: For my Daughter, as God hath given her me, who is the only Joy of my aged life, I will shield her, and in despight of the Pagan and his greatest power defend her chastity: Therefore depart and say to thy Lord from me, his Threats I weigh no more then the words of a Child: If is not his Multitudes can daunt me were they ten times more then they are my Daughter I will hold in despight of his Beard, proud usurper that he is. Thou knowest my will, make no stay.

The Herald noting the sterne Countenance of the King, and hearing his resolution thought it not good to say a reply, lest his tongue swelling in his mouth might not be eated without losse of his head; but glad to escape his fury, conveyed him from his presence with all speed he could, posting to the Pavilion of the Prince, unto whom he delivered the Kings resolute answer; which he no sooner heard, but like one beside himselfe he vowed in those dayes to be revenged of the old Churle, who should tast the bitternesse of his youthfull fury. Little knoweth this proud Enemy the preparation made to bid him welcome, or that his owne destruction was so neare as after it proved.

The Heroick Champion which with no small griefe had endured this proud demand of the Herald, whole, whole request

was for dishonour of her he so much honoured, awaked from Melancholy, and out of a sound sleepe, protesting himselfe before the King, he saith: Renowned Soveraigne, with what griefe I have endured the presumption of this proud Usurper, my heart denieth my tongue to utter, neither shall I have joy of any thing, till I revenge the injuries offered your Majesty and your Princely Daughter upon that Dogge: Wherefore dread Lord, grant me licence to issue out of the City with my Companies in the silence of the Night, and I hope ere long to returne his proud challenge with my Sword in his throat.

Thankes good Knight (quoth the King) I accept thy offer as much as if thou hadst given me the whole World in possession, yet would I not so farre a man should adventure himselfe without my Company, whose cause it is I will accompany thee in the fight, and by my Herald bid him battell, in which I doubt not of successe.

The Knight was much moved to heare his Suit take no better successe, yet not willing to endure any Competitor in the Honour he hoped of, humbly besought his Majesty of the honour he bare to Armes in this attempt to give him leave, and the rather for the Reputation of the Princesse, which had given him his first honour.

The King which saw by his Countenance how malecontent he rested at this denniall, how loth soever he were to grant the same, yet yielded to his desire: And taking him from his knee, lovingly embracing him, he saith. Brave man at Armes, take not in ill part that I have denyed, neither thinke that it was in any sort to discourage you, or the hope I have of your forwardnesse, but for maintaining of my owne honour; yet seeing your will is to adventure for me, goe in Gods name, and be be your defence, that ever comforteth his distressed: And so pulling his Signet from his finger he gave it him, willing that it be delivered to the Governour of the City, and let him understand his Highnesse pleasure was, that he with his Army passe at his pleasure: And so taking his humble leave of the King and his gracious Mistresse, which affected him more then he could conceive, he departeth more joyfull of this honour, then to be richly endowed.

So

No sooner parted he the Kings presence, but slacking as little time as was possible, he summoned his Captaines and Officers, straightly charging them with all the diligence they could use, to gather their Companies, and to attend him in the Market place, in which charge no negligence was used, so that by the shutting in of the Evening, each Captain with his charge both Horse and Foote attending the comming of their Generall, who was not unmindfull of his businesse, and after thankes given to their Leaders, he marched with them to the Gate that led them to the Campe of the Soldan, and was upon sight of the Kings Signet let out. Thus marched the Noble Prince untill he came half way betwixt the Camp and the City, where he called his principall men together and said, Friends and Copartners in Armes, you are now to consider what we have taken in hand, for that on our Weale dependeth the whole Estate of this Common-weale; if we prevaile what good it is to be freed from such an Enemy, there is not the simplest but can conceive, having tasted the extremity which is incident to Warres, and the pleasure of peace. Contrary, the slavery and servile lives which those are compelled to endure that fall into their hands, you may imagine by the opprobious usage of your gracious Prince, and examples of other Christians which have fallen into their hands: Wherefore now is the time to shew your selves in this battell, if you shew your Force, no doubt of happy successe to your eternall Commendations, and to the Benefit of your Country, and freedome of your Wives, Children and Families. With these and other such Speeches, he so encouraged the hearts of his followers, as they vowed to follow him with the hazard of their dearest blood.

CHAP. XII.

How *Pireander* accompanied with a gallant Troope, assailed the *Turke* in his Campe, against whom he obtained a most honourable Victory.

When the Knight saw the willingnesse of his Men, and that their Resolution by outward motions was as he expected, after he had given them ma-

my thanks, he made choyce of five hundred to beare him company. And after he had given directions for the Army to follow, he with his selected company marched on as closly as they might for deferying of the Enemy, who kept a Court of Guard not farre from thence, upon whom in the dead of the Night they entred, and finding them at the advantage (who little doubted any assault, having never before been assailed) some sleeping, some gaming, and others as ill imployed they surprized them, and left not one to beare tydings of their bad Fortune. This first attempt well performed, hee passed on with all speed to the Campe where the Prince lay, suddenly entred the same, where like a resolute and Noble Gentleman he so behaved himselfe, that it filled the hearts of his followers with great courage, who behaved themselves in such manner that few escaped with life, but such as were grievously wounded, so that they rather desired Death then longer to Live. The Prince who was by one of his Bashawes counselled to flye as the least evill, for avoyding of death, was bravely mounted on a swift running Gennet, of which the Heroick Champion being informed, leaving the Fight hee posteth after with so good speed, as the harmlesse Hare from the cruell jawes of the Greyhounds, such haste made this worthy Conquerour that in evill time for the Prince hee overtooke him, accompanied with twelve of his Bashawes, whom he with courage so assailed that in a moment he had banquished them all, leaving some breathlesse, some without armes, others without legs, not one escaped his fury. In which conflict the Prince escaped, but all in vaine, the Destinies had determined there to finish the honour of that Journey by the hands of the Heroick Champion.

Who overtaking him gave him so dangerous a blow with his Curtelar betweene the neck and shoulders, as made him to forget his way, saying; Stay proud Usurper and take my Lady the Princesse with thee; and pulled him violently with all the force he could by the Helmet and unhorsed him, so that the Knight verily supposed he had been slaine: whereupon dismounting himselfe hee revived him againe, unto whom he said: My Lord, this not for your Honour to brave a King in

his

his owne Dominions and in his Court by your Herald, and then to have so small a care of your word. In Faith Pagan (for thy sake) I'le never credit any Heathen on his word hereafter. Pity it is a Prince of your esteeme should after so many Lectures read, play the Truant (trust me) were I your Father, I should twigge the Youth well, to learne him hereafter to bee more carefull of his business. The Prince hearing himselfe so feared, was more grieved thereat then of all the losse he had received; Wherefore with a heartfull of carefull heavinesse, he saith:

Wave Fan at times, what ere then be to whom Fortune hath made me thrall, ill beseemeth such words of disgrace to any one whom the Fates have overthrown, but curled be my selfe which gave thee this opportunity, curled that negligence which maketh my Foe thus to triumph in my fall. Thou Mahomet, suffer me not as thou art a Prophet to live thus disgraced, to behold the face of any man, surprized by so cowardly a Curre, who daring not to thrust his head out of the Kennell but by stealth, hath wrought my utter ruine and overthrow, taking his advantage. But glory not in this victory, for it may be, thou shalt have so great cause to repent thee thereof, as pleasure to behold me now thy Prisoner.

Your Lordship is disposed to be pleasant (quoth the Knight) but it is the use of Christians to give losers leave to speake, if it so happen my Fortune shall be the worse: In the meane time your Grace shall be my Guest, I have an Hostelle provided will bid you welcome, who by this time, I doubt not, doth heare of your comming, that you need not feare of your Dinner. The Prince full of heavinesse could not tell what to answer, wherefore arming himselfe with all the patience he could to endure it, he was by this Conqueror commanded to horse.

Long had they not ridden towards his Army, but he was encountred by divers of his Captains, who missing their Generall at hap-hazard put themselves in search for him, and happily well they met him, who rejoycing at his good Fortune, taking the Prince Prisoner, they recount unto him the ruine and spoyle of the whole Army; for which their diligent cou-

rage and valour shewed he yeldeth them most great and hearty thankes, beseeching them to take charge of his Army and divide the Spoyles among them; which done, repaire at their pleasures to the City, whilest her with his Prisoner must hast to the Kings presence.

The Tydings of the knights successe was by some (such as honoured him) with speed reported at the Court, in which no part of his honours was left unrecounted, whose policy and valiantnesse in Armes the King with all the Courtiers admired: Imagining him by these worthy deeds of Chivalry, to be the only Man at Armes deserving honour in all that Kingdom: Of whom there was no small joy, and such Fame and Renowme of his Actions, as both in City and Court there was no talke but tended to the honour of the Heroick Champion, which liked the Princesse Amoretta not a little, to heare her Servant in these his first Attempts, venturing for her to have such Fortunate successe, so that where she had begun to like him before, Cupid that commandeth the mightiest began most furiously for to assaile her, so that her tender heart vanquished therewith, was inforced to yeld her selfe a Slave unto his Deity: And giving over other Court-like delights, bend her whole study in seeking which way to winne her best beloved to her liking, for the accomplishing of which many wayes were devised and plotted, but none thought sufficient; so that resting in a Labyrinth of confused thoughts, commanding her Attendants from her, she said.

CHAP. XIII.

The Princesse *Amoretta* falleth in love with her Champion *Pheander*, he arriveth at the Court in great honour, presenting the Turkish Prince with his Bashawes: With their pleasant Discourses at their Meetings, and Honours done to *Loves Heroick Champion*.

Moretta that wretch that liveth, enjoyeth not more sweet content then thy selfe, who yelding to follow the Follies of thy youthfull mind, hast planted thy Love thou knowest not on whom, a Stranger, and of no more Repu-

Reputation then a Marchant, a base Trade and most fraudulent, as I have heard many Nobles discusse, whereby they attaine to great wealth: And by their extraordinary meanes wring such young Gentlemen as are forced to have to doe with them, from their antient Patrimonies, making of Noblemen and Gentlemen of great worthip Beggers, and their owne base borne Brats to become young Pallers, which in time, and small time consume that in Pyot, which their miserable Fathers by extortion, false reckonings, unsatiable Usury and other lose dealings, sold their Soules, the precious Image of our Saviour to the Divell. But wretched wretch whither wandrest thou: these be no points for thee to stand upon, thou hast now byed the Game, and art bound by such a Band as there is no remedy but see it thou must; therefore leave to discourse what he was or hath been. Thou hearst by generall report of all men he is Honourable in Warres valiant, bountifull, and endewed with all manner of Gentlemanlike conditions, which argueth him discended of better Parentage then he will acknowledge. And therefore cease not to love him who by all conjectures, if outward shewes proceed of the motion of the Heart, regardeth thy Honour; then requite his Service Amoretta, and take in time to quench that flame which beginneth but yet to warme, lest increasing by little and little it consumeth thee. In extreames the Noble minde is best knowne, happie are they accounted which forewarned can eschew a mischiefe; If thou canst with thy Love, what Creature may be compared with thee for happie content? Be resolute Amoretta, feare no colours, thy Love is planted on such a one, who for his vertues may be mated with the greatest Princelle on the Earth; then flame on fearmes of his being, but determine to love him, faint-hearted Souldier never gained conquest, if hee be base thou maist advance him. Thou art heire to the Crowne of Trebisond, and thy Fathers Sole delight, who then should gain-say thy will herein (Fathers Sole delight said I) yea there Amoretta, lyeth a blocke which thou canst hardly remove.

Thy Father, what will the aged King say? when he shall heare of thy Love so basely planted, which hath refused

to

to be Wife to two famous Kings, requiring thee with great sute in Marriage: Refraine Fondling from this rash determination, let thy Fathers love be a Reyne to hold thy unbrideled will, feare his displeasure which gave thee Life, and seek not by thy folly to bring his head with sorrow to his Grave, which if thou persist will be such a Corasive to his heart, and such a staine to thine honour, as the memory of Amorettaes disobedience will never be razed out, With these and such like motions of good she sought to withdraw her Love from him, that for Birth and other Noble actions deserved her better, albeit unknowne to her; but ever he be, the more shee sought to suppresse the flame of her Love the more it increased; that without regard of Fathers good, or her owne honour she determined to love him: Yea the Heroick Champion with his Prize, was arrived at the Court, whom the King and Nobles welcommed with all courtesie they could shew, as joyfull of his safe returne, who had so honourably borne himselfe in that action as if he had conquered Europe, which kindness to the Knight was recompence sufficient for all his Charge and hard adventure.

The Princesse who was awaked from her studies by report of the Knights comming, sumptuously attired as she could as beseemed her estate, accompanied with all her troope of Ladies and Maids of honour, came into the Presence, who no sooner approached the place where the Knight was, but the beholding the exquisite perfection of her Beauty which hee so much delighted in, was sodainly bereaved of his Sences, so that he stood as a man that had lost himselfe; yet reviving, loath to make manifest with what great griefe he had concealed so long, humbly on his knees presented the glory of his Enterprize unto her, saying: Most gracious Princesse, as by your most excellent hands I received my first step to honour, and fighting for your Graces & Kingly Fathers sakes, it hath pleased God to prosper me with a happie Victory, for which good having nothing worthy to present your Grace as I desire, yet in knowledge of my duty to your Excellence, to whom my Life and Service is devoted, I humbly beseech you accept this Gentleman my Prisoner, and your Noble Fa-

thers

thers Mortall Enemy. The Princesse to whom nothing could be more pleasing then the sight of her beloved Knight, graciously accepted the Prisoner, rendering great thankes for the same, as also for his Valour shewed in her defence. And then turning to the captived Prince, she said.

My Lord, you see the Chance of Fortune and how mutable she is in all things, sometimes fawning, sometimes frowning, but whether by your Fortune, or Cowardize, or both, you are now at their mercy, whose overthrow you assured your selfe of, and which you most desired then all the Territories of the Earth, but our GOD which never suffereth his servants to perish hath mightily defended us: It is not your mighty powers can vant the hearts of Christians whose God is their Guide: Neither regard we them at all as a matter of any truth, your eyes can witnesse, who having an Army able (as you thought) to have banquished all Christendome is by an handfull to your Multitudes surprized. Yet dismay not my Lord, a Champion is your Goaler, who will use you more honourably then you can imagine, or your hard threats deserve. The Prince which saw the beauty of the Princesse, whom hee so earnestly upon reports had desired, holding the Fame that was buted to be nothing to her worthinesse, therefore accusing himselfe of great impiety that had borne Armes against the only Paragon of the Earth, and not by courtesie have continued his Love begun, ashamed of himselfe, he saith.

Renowned Lady, Fortunes Darling and Beauties chiefe Pride, though perhaps hath made me of a Prince and Heire to the mightiest Potentate of the Earth, a Captive, and that by thy Champion I am dishonoured and my Power banquished, crosses which may cause the stoutest that ever lived to cry out on Fortune, and to curse the Destinies, yet am I comforted in the sweetnesse of your words, which disdaineth to use the utmost cruelty you might, or take his life that had vowed to use you with more extreames, then if by the greatest torments I could have afflicted you withall, I had caused you to dy many thousand deaths, if it were possible so many could be incident to one body. Had I prevailed of thy courtesie famous Princesse, I cannot say what I would, but vow unto thee by

the honor of my Fathers Crown, while I breath to remaine a true Liegeman unto thee vertuous Amoretta, whose courtesie hath subdued my choller, and put my oppressed heart from a million of cares wherewithall it was oppressed. My Lord (quoth the Princesse) your Lordship is merrily disposed, indeed women are Gods Children wonne with a toy, such Fooles they are: Yet my Lord, I would you did know how little I esteeme the flattery of men, of what estate soever they would spend their frivolous breath elsewhere, for your Lordship, though you please to jest, I thanke God you have such cause to doe, whom I praise for the Victory received, and hope his duty my Servant for his paines employed for our safety. And with these words she gave him so gracious a looke, as well might the standers by see it was not feigned, but that her speech spoken in his praise proceeded of the inward motions of the heart, which of the captive Prince was not unperceived, which caused him to reply thus.

Madame, for avoyding that odious straine of flattery which my heart hath ever contemned, I dare not say what I would, yet seeing the Destinies are so pleased to yield me a Prisoner to my Enemy, I reckon my unhappinesse the lesse which have so gracious a Lady for my Keeper, of whom expecting no better then death, I am by your comfort quite depriued of the feare. And for this Noble Gentleman, how Fortune and the Fates hath favoured him in this victory, wherein I am so dishonoured every man cannot conceive. But were the honour thereof a million more, yet not to be weighed in the ballance where your Grace doth counterpoise the same, which is more to be esteemed then the Worlds gaze: How you hold him in regard I know not, but if an Enemies praise may any way honour him, I say, and with my blood will avouch, that for his Valour none liveth on the Confines of the Earth his equall: Wherefore Madame, boast you of his worthinesse which is peerelesse, and worthy for all perfections, to be honoured of the mightiest Monarch that liveth.

CHAP. XIV.

Chap. XIV.

How *Marmaricus* King of *Hungaria*, who had suffered Shipwrack at Sea in a Storme, was brought on shore in *Trebisond* on a Rafter. With his Royall entertainment by the Gentlemen of the Country and his Honourable welcomes to the Court by the King and his Nobles.

THankes my Lord, quoth the Princesse, for your good opinion of my Servant, I doubt not but he will say as much for you when opportunity shall serve, who I assure you is as courteous as honourably endued. While they were thus pleasantly discoursing, word was brought the King, that Marmaricus Prince of Hungaria who by the violence of a cruell Storme had suffered Shipwracke, and was found on a Rafter driven ashore on the remotest parts of his Confines; where being unknowne to any of his Subjects, but by his own report, was by the Gentlemen of his Country entreated as beseemed his estate: and accompanied with a Princely traine, was within halfe a dayes journey of the Court. The sodaine report whereof broke off their talke, the King commanding his traine presently to be ready Horsed to accompany him, who with all diligence failed not to obey his command; and so orderly marching through the City they rode an easie pace untill they meete the Stranger King, between whom great courtesie was used. The King gave thanks and loving countenance to the Gentlemen who had to their great cost so honoured him, by entertaining this Stranger whereby his Country was made famous. Thus with divers Discourses they passed the time, till they came to the Court where a stately Lodging was prepared for him, and Officers appointed to attend his Person as royally as if he had been in his own Pallace, where solacing with the King and his Nobles we leave him.

Chap. XV.

How *Pheander* being now in Court in the sight of his Love and Lady, his affections began to revive, and a Melancholy passion possest him, which was noted of many, but chiefly of the Princesse, with their honourable Parly and favourable proffers.

REturne unto Pheander Loves Heroick Champion, whose entrailes frying with the scorching flames of this his Mistresse beauty, had so much changed his Colour and impaired his strength, that inforced by great griefe and extremity of his Love, he withdrew him to his Chamber, where casting himselfe on his Bed with a million of carefull thoughts, oftentimes determining to seeke the Princesse favour: And then by contrary motions, fearing the successe of his Suite, carying the report of no better then a Marchant, which might give cause of great dislike and disparage his suite, he saith: Miserable Pheander, whom the Fates continually cause by their hard hap daily to complaine, curssing the time of thy Nativity, and the Starres which governd thine Aspects, which neither time nor place can remedy, faint-hearted wretch, that seeking thine owne overthrow increasest thy griefe by concealing the cause. Lettest not thou thy Princely Father to come hither, where thou mightest injoy the presence of thy beloved Mistresse, and in doing her service to acquaint her with thy Love; and coward-like shamest thou to let her know thy zeale, whose courtesie is without compare, and every way sheweth in what regard she holdeth thee that hath procured her liberty in adventuring thy Life; a pleasure that of a thankfull mind can be forgotten.

What knowest thou whether her love be as much to thee, whom Womanly modesty denyeth to reveale, elle mightest thou happily know it? No, no fondling, thy Fortune is not so happie, which ever hath lived in unhappinesse, yet despaire not, nor like a wretch dye in thy Cabinet; Rowse thee and consider what thou art, give not over thy desires to miserable Death, without acquainting her with thy Love; Spare to speake, and spare to speed. A Proverbe not so old as true, which

which if thou follow, will either give thee comfort by her courteous grant, or by denial hasten thy Death, by which thou shalt be freed from these torments, enjoying life, and living enjoy thy sweet delight, or by death end these torments.

In this resolution having banished Despaire, arming himselfe with hope of good successe, stretching his weake limbes he hasteneth to the Presence, whose absence had been noted of most Courtiers attendant there, but especially of the Princesse, who (albeit) found the company unfurnished wanting his company, yet durst not enquire of him, doubting the suspition of jealous Eyes. But Fortune, who had so long spurned at him with her foot, gave him this opportunity to raise him, whom she had like to have overthrown, chancing to looke out of a window which opened into a Parke belonging to the Court, her espyed the Princesse pleasantly passing the time with her Traine of Ladies, which opportunity hee was not willing to lose, but with all speed as his fainting Legs could make, revived by the sight of his sweet chase with all sayles spread, in short time he recovered his wished desire, who was no sooner of the Princesse seene, his humble duty done, and she having requited the same, giving him the time of the day with a most pleasant and friendly Countenance she challenged him of negligence, whom she had not seene in two or three dayes; and leading him politickly pretending matters of importance to import unto him, from the company, she brought him neare the side of a faire Cople which so overshadowed them that the Sun beames could not offend them, where they might both boldly say whatsoever it pleased them, without being heard or seene of any which might interrupt them, which caused her to take opportunity to discourse with him thus:

Servant (quoth she:) I pray thee speake of the duty thou hast vowed thy Mistresse, and by those sweet thoughts which are best pleasing unto thee, what is the Lady to whom thy Love is dedicated; for love doubtles thou dost, thy Countenance bewrayeth it, which I have noted, with more regard then becommeth a Mayden; yet of care to thee, whose health I tender, for thy great courtesie and

good Seruice done, which I would requite in the best manner I might; and thy lookes shew thy heart craveth to be pitied of thy Lady, let me know her who may chance stand thee in some stead, for Women may prevaile much one with another. The Knight wapt into a heaven of joyes, hearing the Goddesse of his devotion with such Favour and kindnesse to use him, with a blushing countenance standing at the Barre before her, whose Sentence pronounced was either life or death, by saith.

Honourable and gracious Mistris, give me leave so to call your Highnesse, since you have gained a Captive the Title of your Servant, and pardon my presumption answering your demand, that I love I can not deny, which argueth your skill in Physicke great (whom) my tongue is restrained to reveale: But if your Highnesse could judge whose love I most adore and long have, and judging ease me, I should have cause to say, no Physicke professer on the Earth whatsoever might compare with my gracious Mistresse for skill: I dare say no more fearing to offend. The Princesse all this time gazed on the perfection of her Servant, as deeply inamoured of his perfection as the Knight inveagled with hers, for her Eye made Survey of his excellent Feature, which she found more perfect, by how much the more she had bent her liking to love him.

This love which had assailed both their hearts, endued them with such a Sympathy of joy beholding themselves all alone, that with overmuch joy they were stricken mute, so that how much soever their hearts desired to let each other know their loves, they could not reveale the same.

In this Heaven of happy content they had not long beene, but Syrtha a Lady that attended the Princesse brought her word, the King her Father with the King of Hungary was comming into the Parke, which place they had chosen to recreate themselves: Where passing on by faire Paris, they diligently listen to the Sweet records of the pretty Birds, who skipping from Tree to Tree gave as well the content beholding it, as the Care pleasure in their notes: Great was the delight they received viewing the Beauty of the place, which for

for pleasant Walkes, sweet Groves, and fruitfull Trees of all sorts was matchlesse: Into which many pleasant Bowres had recourse; On the Bankes of which, finding the place beautified with Natures gifts they sat them downe, earnestly beholding the pleasure of the Fishes, how prettily they chased one the other, with many a pleasant conceived Toy, which they noted, censuring of each severall Action, as they thought best to increase their mirth. When some time was spent on this manner, Castilanus King of Trebisond finding himselfe all alone with the King of Hungary, having never questioned of him his unhappy Fortune, began with him thus.

Chap. XVI.

How the King of *Hungary* communed with the King of *Trebisond*. The Princesse *Amoretta* discovereth her Love. The *Heroick Champion* by a Letter craveth the Princesse liking. The Knights Letter to the Princesse.

Mie let it not be displeasing unto thee (famous King) that I intrude my selfe so farre into thy Familiarity, to require the cause of your Graces Travaile, through which your Life was so endangered, if you vouchsafe me this favour, you shall command a matter of more import (so it please you) at my hands.

The Hungarian King attending his unexpected Question, was driven into such sundry thoughts, that his colour shewed better his discontent to recount it, then his tongues ableness to answer the Kings demand, how willing soever he was to satisfie him, yet after some pause, he saith.

Right courteous and Mirrour of the World for Nobility, though nothing can be more displeasing to my troubled heart, then recount my adverse Fortune, yet that your Grace shall not find any ingratitude in me, at whose hands I have receives such honourable entertainment, attend me.

It is not many yeares since Mantonna my Father deceased, who left me (unhappy I) his Successour to inherit the Crown, which I did not long enjoy, before Mimaleon King of Ægypt requested

requested of me my Sister in Marriage, who being Beautifull and in the flourishing time of her yeares, having not yet attained to the full of fifteene, young enough to be beskowed, yet of that wisdome that I referred the choyce of her Love to her owne liking, induced thereunto by the many evils hapning by such made Marriages, where the Children are forced, by the covetous desires of their Parents to joyne wealth to wealth; Others for great Patrimonies all for Lucre, few or none for Love.

But whither the beauty of my Sister Timoclea (for so was she called) or the desire of her Dowry which was great, or either of them, or both, I cannot say, but my Sister being made acquainted with his Suite, I craved her answer, for which his Ambassadors attended at my Court with the best entertainment I could give, whom my Sister Timoclea with her own mouth answered (woe is me) unhappie the tongue that pleaded denniall to his Suite, but most of all unhappie the houre when first of all hee determined to crave her at my hands, in whose power it was not to grant. No sooner arrived his Nobles at the Court, and her scarcely received the summe of her Answer, but one bereft of all Honour, Reason and Government, he vowed revenge on me and my Country. And levying a mighty Army both of Horse and Foot, assailed me in mine owne Territories, whom by the mighty power of the Almighty, I expelled my Land to their great dishonour, and no small losse unto my Subjects. Yet how great soever his overthrow was (an honourable mind I must say) were the cause just, hee prepared as mighty a power by Sea, whereof being by Spies advertized of the time (as neare as they could guesse) they would be ready, with a power well Shipped and furnished, I met him neare his owne Confines, where a mortall Fight was begun and most valiantly maintained, neither side giving any shew of fainting.

But alas, too soone commeth that griefe which melteth my heart into thousand of Teares, to recount the Admirall of mine owne Squadron being sunck, and two others forced by the cunning hand of their Gunners to lye by the Lee, and the rest fainted; which being perceived by the Enemy they bor-

ded

dep and by hundreds entred my Ships and Gallies, who were valiantly repulsed. But men can doe no more then GOD will give them leave: So long they continued the Fight, that the Scuppers gulhed blood as they had often with the water delivered by the Pumpe. And here lay some maimed and there a number slaine. This pittifull Stratagem when my heart with heavinesse beheld, being so hardly assailed my selfe, after that I was cleared from the Fleet, the Wind favouring me with a happy gale, and my Ship being good of Sayle I forsooke the Fight, in hope to have recovered into my owne Countrey, and with a new supply have given him welcome thither. But my hopes herein perceived, a boysterous storme growing, the Sea who is merciless arose in extremity, swelling with such outrage that my battered Ship no longer able to endure her cruelty, was put against our wills on thy Coast (my Pilate unacquainted with the same) and a hoary Pitt overspreading the Land, suddenly the ship struck, being so near the shore, which drave us to great terrour. Which to remedy the Sayliners did their best, but in vaine strive they that labour against his will that commandeth all.

What should I say the outrage of the storme was such, as forced the ship upon the Lee-shore which gave us all cause to remember our Maker, and with hearty prayers to crave his assistance: But our Comfort was comfortlesse, our Ship split and we all driven to make what shift we might, my selfe hapning on the maine Yard, after that I had been grievously beaten at Sea the whole Night, was driven ashore on your Confines, where I never heard of any other that were saved.

With this the teares restrained his speech that he could not speake, which moved the King to more pitty of his Estate, and friendly embracing him, he said; No more my Lord at this time, I am sorry that I have given you such cause of grief, thus by recounting so lamentable a state to renew your passed griefes: But comfort good King, when Tydes be at the lowest they spring againe. If the Ægyptian King be so extreame, that Reason with courtesie will not content him, the cause being no other but to force the love of a Woman unto him, of which (perhaps) he were better be without: On the

word of a King, and by honour I sweare, I will not leave you untill I see you settled in your Kingdome. Thus the King whom Sorrow had overburthened, was by the comfort of this Noble King (his Hoast) recomforted, whose whole study was now in preparing of an Army to aide him, unto which care we leave them.

Amoretta, whose restlesse Passions neither time nor place could alter, burning in these remedilesse thoughts, considering the pennance her loving heart was like to endure, she fell into this humour. Amoretta how have the Fates ordained to make thee unhappy; that thou being delivered from an oppressing Enemy, then steps in Love to begin a new Tragedy. Thou seest her Fawnings is but flattery, then seek to eschew them, enter not too farre into the Fiord, least minding but to wet thy shoe thou plunge over head and eares. Thy yeares (albeit not many) with the Examples of others whom thou hast read may learne thee to be wise: If thy fancy be fixed on such vanity as may breed thy sorrow, expell it as thou mayst, suffer not Love to harbour in thy heart, for harboured he commonly pleads possession; and once possest, neither force nor intreaty may remove him, so ambitious a Tyrant is he, that voyd of pitty, against Law and all Hostility he holdeth what he list.

Alas Amoretta, if thy Enemy be such what availeth thee? Thou maist wish to be freed from his Tyranny, but canst never avoyd it so imperious is he, yet not manly but as a Coward, making the breach where the Wall is weakest: Poore Women are the Marke whereat most commonly he aimeth, who being by Nature pittifull are easie to believe, and by too light credit are taken by them they best like of. Thus (poore wenc) dost thou nothing but heave feathers against the wind, which returne into thine own Eyes: Thy Speeches uttered in Loves dishonour will be challenged, and like a Tranterous Rebell to his Deity shalt thou bee convicted, arraigned, and condemned for depraving his Godhead. If it be death (fondling) to speake against the Majesty of a Prince, what is it to contemne the powers above? The best remedy thou hast in Reconciliation, wherewith the Gods are pleased, and heartily

sorrowing

sorrowing for thy misse yield thyselfe vanquished: And yielding seeke by favour to obtaine the end of thy desires. Thy Love is matchlesse and doubtlesse Honourable, his Countenance sheweth the true badge of Nobility, and his Valour and Bounty doe answer what his other perfections doe promise: I have often heard it spoken, that Womens helps in extremity have beene great; if that bee true praefe Amoretta, call thy Wits together, and so end thy Torments, by enjoying thy hearts content (so much discontent) by yielding to the same.

Thus resolved without longer stay, she called unto her Syritha (her chiefe Attendant) who from her infancy had beene brought up with her: In this Syritha she conceived her greatest hope, unto whom she said: Syritha, since I had Reason to know good from evill thou knowest how I have tendered thee, and how willing I would be to seeke thy preferment: Make tryall, when thou please so shalt thou be assured of that, which justly thou maist hold in suspence. But leaving these conjuring words I must Syritha commit unto thy secrets a matter of import, whereon my honour and reputation dependeth. For I tell thee Syritha, I have made choyce of thee among all those which I may command, as of her I love and have best cause so to doe, having had such society, else should I rather chuse to dye ten thousand deaths then reveale it.

Syritha which had her whole hope of good from the Princesse, hearing her Speeches, with teares standing in her eyes, proceeding of joy for the honour done her by her Lady, protested unto her by Heavens Maker, and what else he framed to be secret in her determinations, and doe her best endeavour to accumplish whatsoever she commanded. The Princesse taking her word for currant, in whom shee never found deceit, said: Syritha that it is incident to all creatures in their kind to love, I know thy wits be not so simple but thou canst conceive, and he that frameth us directeth our likings as best pleaseth him, be it Prince or Beggar, from the highest to the simplest, and he (my Syritha) hath linked my liking, to a most brave toward Gentleman (on whom I thinke) if affection (which is blind) deceive me not, is worthy to bee mated with the greatest in degree on the Earth. To keepe thee with frivo-

lous speech is no time now, having other matter enough to discourse: therefore that thou maist know him to whom my Love is united, Pheander the new adopted Knight is he (Pheander) famous for his valour, renowned for his bounty, and admired for courtesie: He, he, Syrrha is the joy of my heart (and my hearts sole delight) without whom I cannot live, no I will not not live, I, neither may I live, such is the Service my heart hath vowed in Love unto him: Therefore if thou lovest me as thou hast profest, by thy Industry seeke to save my life, which cannot but perish not obtaining my desires.

Syrrha listening to her discourse, willing to become second in this Comedy, had her braines beating already in search of the charge committed unto her, yet would she not answer any thing suddenly, considering how displeasing speeches spoken out of time be unto Lovers corrosives: Yet cheering the Princesse, she requested until the next morning respite for answer, which the Princesse granted, relying greatly in her, which was wise and well demeaned, many wayes (sometimes doubtfull sometimes pleasing) lifted her Senses to the proofe, whom to her study we leave.

The Heroick Champion, whose extreames were farre more (if more might be) after his abrupt parting with his Mistris he grew so melancholy, as nothing (were it Viands) could relish his weake Corps, neither daintinesse of pleasing sweet Musicke, wherewith his friends presented him might any way delight him, so that in outragious manner he exclaimed on his Misfortune, cursing the Tydings-bearer of the Kings repaire to the Parke, and his tongue for not revealing his griefe, his Physician so ready to heare, that despairing of his hope to enjoy her he was likely to mischiefe himselfe: Yet reason affirming, that the learnedst Physician could not discover the disease of his Patient without he shew it, how neare soever he guesse. Entring further in consideration of her favourable Speeches, shaking off care, like a hardy Souldier he determined in writing to let her know his Love, since he had no hope to meet her againe at the like advantage. Therefore like the condemned, hoping of pardon, liveth the Knight, yet desirous to be resolved either of comfort or despaire, he calleth for Pen and Inke, and wrote thus:

To

To the only Miſtris of my heart, the moſt beautifull Amoretta, *happineſſe and hearts content.*

IF *Jupiter*, being a God, were vanquiſhed by Love, and many mighty Monarchs have beene forced to ſeeke the Love of beautifull Ladies, I have the leſſe cauſe to accuſe my Fortune, or exclaime againſt his Soveraignty, who hath framed my heart to like and love your Excellence; how long I have honoured thee (only) I omit, or to impart the many griefes endured for your ſake, which as you are by Nature pitifull, ſo vouchſafe to credit the lines of your ſworne Servant, and by your favour reclaime from the Gates of Death, my Soule which is willing to leave theſe wretched Corps upon your denyall. Therefore Peerleſſe Lady, if thou hold the Life of thy Servant in any regard, grant mee thy Love, and with thy Love gracious liking: So ſhall I live to honour thee, or dye through thy cruelty. I write not as a Poet, but as a Souldier, to your Highneſſe: And therefore if thou diſlike theſe Lines, attribute the ſhortneſſe of my ſtile to my faithfulneſſe, which without flattery, have delivered the Summe of his miſery, and hope ſhall bee by your gracious courteſie eaſed. So attending your anſwer, either of Life or Death, I wiſh thy Joyes never to have an end, and my ſelfe ſpeedy death, without your liking.

Your Graces, unlife moſt humble,
Pheander.

CHAP. XVII.

How *Loves Heroick Champion* procured *Syritha*, the Princeſſe Waiting woman, to deliver his Letter, and their Parley.

WHen he had ended theſe Lines, ſealed and directed the ſame, he could not find by many deviſes which he fought, how it ſhould be brought to his Miſtreſs hands, at length after many ſundry waies ſought this was thought beſt: Calling to mind Syritha the Princeſſe Maid, to which he had afternoted to be in ſome regard with her, he determined to procure

her, either of courtesie or for reward to deliver it. And very early in the morning as soone as he could get ready, addressed himselfe to the Court, attending the comming of his Mistris thither as she usually did, but unhappy Pheander, it fell not out so well with him this day, for the Princesse distempered in her thoughts, hath her mind so much of her love and how to obtain it, as she enjoyed no sleep by night nor content by day, so that she was enforced with weakenesse to keepe her Chamber, to the great discomfort of the King, and griefe of all the Ladies. But as many crosses are incident to Lovers: So Cupid which is good to some that serve him (albeit) the Newes of his Ladies malady was burthensome to him, yet this pleasure it brought him: It fortuned Syricha, with whom his chiefest desire was to have some Speech, passing into the Garden either to walke or for some occasion of her Ladies, whom Pheander followed with a cheerefull countenance more like a Novice in Loves Schools then any way skilfull; yet whetted on by the hopes his heart conceived, he saluted the Gentlewoman, who was not a little abashed to see the Knight so neare her, nor could she judge any cause of his comming unto her, yet as she was courteous, as willing to heare what he would say as he to utter the same, with a face blushing, shewing a kind countenance, she enquired of his health, with other ordinary prattle: which he answered returning her many thanks, said, Mrs. Syricha; though my deserts never merited favour at your hand, yet let me crave your furtherance in a Sute, for that I heare the Princesse is weak and not willing to be troubled, that I may not attaine her Speech; and my businesse of importance compelleth me to morrow early to leave the Court, to deliver this Letter to her owne hands, and at your leisure returne me such answer as shee please to deliver. In doing which you shall do me a favour of great esteeme, which shall not be bestowed on an unthankfull man.

The Gentlewoman which did know where the Princesse Shoe did wring her, supposing the Knight to be wounded with like affection, was glad to become so happy a Messenger, to her who could willingly vouchsafe him as partner of her best fortunes, yet making a kind denial, she said; Sir, though I could willingly

willingly do you more service, then Modesty will I acquaint you with, it is not the part of our Countrey Gentlemen to make Posts of Gentlewomen, having Pages fit for the purpose: If I refuse your request attribute it to no discurtesie in me, which am very loth to offend her Highnesse, not knowing whether the Sentence of your Paper may discontent her or no. That many Messengers have incurred displeasure, yea and losse of life as the cause hath deserved, I hope it is not unknown unto you, yet hath the harmelesse Messenger known as little what he carried, as I desirous to know of you.

Sweet Syritha quoth the Knight, that it is wisdome to beware by others harmes I deny not, yet it is discurtesie to deny the request of a Gentleman which have ever shewed himselfe a dutifull Servant to his Highnesse, and honouring him can I frame my heart to prejudice that Lady of incomparable vertue? No, no, Heavens never permit mee life to offend her in the least sort: Therefore doubt no such matter, for on the [illegible] of a Gentleman, my life shall be offered and freely given to [illegible] thy Friendship, wherein I am so pleasured by you. Syritha noting by the often changing colour in telling his tale, his heart was not his owne (some more businesse in his hand then he would impart) loath to offend his patience by her deniall, said; Sir perswading my selfe of your loyalty, I will for this time become your Ambassadour, although it would impaire my credit with her Excellence, whose favour I hold as deare as my life, and that you shall assure your selfe of my trustinesse herein, so it please you to meet me in this place to morrow, by that time the Suns power shall have drawne the Dew from off the Earth, I shall returne you answer as you desire.

Thankes good Syritha for thy courtesie, assure you I will not dye in thy debt, if ever Pheander may requite it by any industry. In the meane time (quoth he) favour me so highly as weare this for my sake, and pulling off a Diamond of great price gave it her, which shee was loath to accept, yet giving thankes for his courtesie, she said.

Sir, would you did understand, I prize not my paines, that you should reward me with Hire, or doe you good in hope of benefit;

benefit; for as it is unfitting a Gentlewoman to take guifts beſtowed in ſuch manner: So is it diſcourteſie, and no part of a Woman-like condition to refuſe the guift of a Friend: Therefore accept my thankes till I better deſerve it. Thus time paſſing away, Syritha taking her leave departed towards the Princeſſe, and the Knight to his lodging, where how many ſundry thoughts aſſayled him, I leave to them that have endured the like.

CHAP. XVIII.

How *Syritha* haſteneth to the Princeſſe Lodging, unto whom after many pretty communications on both parts. ſhe delivered the Letters, and how ſhee obtained grace with the Princeſſe for her paines: With her reſolution to love, and her kind acceptance of his Sute.

SYritha come to the Princeſſe preſence, by her pleaſant geſture was of the Princeſſe perceived, who was jealous of her being acquainted with her Malady, who calling her to her beds ſide, ſhee enquired where ſhee had ſpent the time ſo long from her, knowing that all her Attendants were comberſome unto her but only Syritha, with whom ſhe might paſſe the time in diſcourſing her love.

Madame, duty commands me to anſwer your demand, yet having beene to ſearch ſome dainties, that might yield delight to your weake ſtomacke, and cauſe better diſgeſture, by chance paſſing into the Garden for ſuch things, I was encountred by the beſt skil'd in the Dominions of Trebiſond, who gave me a receit, which I judge by my ſimple skill, will give your Majeſty great eaſe; yet doth the Phyſician doubt whether your ſtomacke will diſgeſt it. This gracious Lady (quoth Syritha) hath beene the cauſe of my abſence and no other.

(Alas good wench) how am I beholding to thee, that caring to recover my ſtrength ſearcheſt the depth of thy skill, but Syritha, in vaine ſeekeſt thou her health, whom no Phyſician with all his Hearbs, Drugs and Simples, Balms, Emplaiſters,

fters, or what Art may prohibe can remedy, only GOD the great Commander, muſt by his Grace bring my deſires to an end, or by death end my dayes of Life.

What Madam, eber in this tune, once alter these diſcords which make your Muſicke iarre, and ſing the beliefe with a cheerefull voyce, ſo may your mind bee a little eaſed, and the Receit I have to miniſter worke with the more effect: I ſpeake this Madam of experience, for every skilfull Phyſician will prepare the body of his Patient before he miniſter, Therefore Madam, if you will shake off this Melancholy, you ſhall have a taſt of what I promiſe, if not your Grace muſt pardon me, it were great pitty ſo precious a thing ſhould be caſt away.

Well Syritha (quoth the Princeſſe) thou art diſpoſed to croſſe me with thy words, which doe but increaſe my diſeaſe, yielding ſmall comfort: Therefore leaving thoſe jeſts, ſay me my good wench, if thou haſt ought will doe me good (if not) uſe me no more thus unkindly, leaſt overcome with the extreame of my griefe, I chance to ſay with my tongue what my heart will repent, or uſe my hands with ſuch Rigour, as becommeth not a Mayden. The Gentlewoman ſeeing the wind blow ſo warme, fearing as much as was promiſed, ſeeing the Princeſſe impatience thought it not good to tempt her above her ſtrength: For women being by Nature warm, with a little fuell will be made hot, paſt reaſon: Wherefore making a Preamble to her diſcourſe, like an eloquent Orator began thus. ——

(Pheander) with that word, making a long pauſe to note the Princeſſe countenance, on the ſudaine naming her beloved was interruped thus; Pheander, Syritha, what franticke humour cauſeth thee to name him in this manner, with whom thou haſt never any thing to ſay? Madam (quoth Syritha) attend the reſt, before you either condemn me or commend me, Then proceed, quoth the Princeſſe.

This Pheander, of whom my Tale is before your Excellence to be told, is that Knight, who of your Majeſty is called the Heroick Champion: This Knight (as it is told me) loveth a Lady, but whom I cannot declare before I know: but as it is told me by his deare friend which knoweth the ſecrets of his

heart, so tormented is he in his passions, that the night naturally made for rest (restlesse) he consumeth in great discontent (the day) wherein all creatures delight, is unto him loathsom, so that through watching and refusing his dyet, is altered from the sanguine unto the yellow coloured Safron (yea Pacam) these mine eyes are Witnesses of it, who this day saw him passe into the Court so feeble, that his weake Legs might hardly endure the weight of his body. No more of this my sweet Syritha, least thy tongue burted too long on this Tragedy, overcome with the extremity of my grief, I be enforced to seeke an end of my torments by dispatching my owne life. O Syritha, is this thy comfortable confection: Is this the relief thou preachest of which would yield me such quiet mind? Unhappy Lady, why should I live to see another enjoy my Love? Is not Pheander my Servant, have not I made choyce of him, and shall another (no way able to enjoy him) have that interest which might delight the Goddesses? Peace Amoretta, whether commest thou? Let reason subdue rage, and moderate passion, let not every one know thy love to Pheander, but conceale it as thou maist, and seeke some secret devises to give thy heart ease, by death which is thy best Remedy: Yet would I live to become a succour to the well deserving Knight, and gaine his hearts desire for him if I might. Cruell were that Dame, and not worthy to enjoy the simplest Crowne, which carelesse for Love consumeth such a Man in all perfections and Lineaments of body as Pheander, without yielding him love. But hearken Syritha, that thou maist in time when my body shall be intombed among the dead, report unto my Love (and loving Knight) how deare I held his love, as my countenance often shewed though he (careless of love) never regard it, for he shall well know at my last end how I wish his welfare, doe but this for me, by his friend to learne the Ladies Name to whom the Knight is so enthralled. This is all the Service that I will ever command thee, that knowing her I may become an intercessor for him, whom my heart more desireth then all the worlds possession: With this the Teares which trickled downe from her Eyes restrained her tongue. In which sorrowfull passion her Maid became a partner,

ner, and grieved for her folly committing so haynous a fault in procuring the same; she excused it in this manner.

Most gracious Princesse, how much I grieve to see your discomfort I cannot say, but hope your Grace will pardon me, which have been more bold (presuming on your favour) then beseemeth me; neither what I have done (gracious Lady) was of any intent to offend you, but to acquit my selfe of blame, in a matter which I have of courtesie undertaken as the Sequell shall manifest, if it shall please your Ladyship to peruse this Letter, which will no doubt, resolve you without further pains to me of circumstance to your Grace, what she is that is best beloved of the Heroick Champion, on the Earth. This Letter I received at his hands, who hearing of your disquiet, desirous (as it would seeme) to acknowledge his duty to you, conjured me by many faire words, and proffers of good to deliver it unto your hands; which albeit for Modesty I did long refuse, thrusting that from me with my finger, which I would willing have drawne to me with all my force: In the end I consented, and the rather for your Ladiships quiet, which I suppose will bid it welcome for the Masters sake; who if my judgement in the Planet Venus deceive me not, will prove shortly a Conjunction, or ile never trust my skill againe; for Venus being in the Signe Leo, hath dominion over both houses, viz. He and shee, or he and you.

The Princesse at her last shift when she heard Syritha's tale, void of all hope to enjoy her beloved Pheander, after she had a while paused, as one at length awaked from her Memento as from a sleepe, she saith: Now trust me Wench, thou hast cunningly gone about the bush, and hast daintily sought into my deepest secrets, yet how soever you have dealt, there may be a quill'e to deceive both thee and him: But I pray thee Syritha, tell me what speaches used the Heroick Champion at the delivery thereof, tell me sweet Girle in friendship.

The despairing Knight (good Madam) for so I must call him, how ever his valour shewes it selfe in field, as no doubt worthily; so saith report: Yet in Love I see his dastardnesse, who lovely, yet dare not reveale the summe of his desires, but must commit it to a tell-tale paper, languishing to the death,

wanting his delight, and prolonging his sorrowes by silence, his lookes bewraying more then he can utter: For be it said, he that had seene not long since his beauty and gallant grace, the ability of his body, and noted every particuler Lineament, at this time with the debility thereof, should see a Metamorphosis, which might move the most hardest heart to pitty; the cause of me unknowne but suspected. The assurance I doubt not but your Grace will soone understand, if you vouchsafe to teare the Seals and perufe the contents.

The Princesse which thought every Minute a yeare till she had knowledge of the knights mind, put her Maiden from her prattle with a fained Message, when being all alone, with a number of sorrowfull sighes for the Knights perplexity, she read, and many times read those lines which gave her first comfort of enjoying her hearts content: How welcome they were unto her it may better bee imagined then explained, whose head was wholy busied in answering the same, for which she thought it not unfit to use the helpe of Syritha; wherefore resting from her former studies, we leave her contemplating on her love till Syritha her returne; who seeing her Ladies colour somwhat revived began to smile, Madame (quoth she) though I made a fault in detaining so long the Physicke that I promised you, yet I hope your Majesty will pardon that offence, considering the good it doth in working; how you digest it I know not, but he that hath least skill in judging complexions, will say your Marriage is mended by twenty in the hundred; if you recover but so much of your losse every two dayes there are few (in one week) will believe you have been sicke. Well wanton, well (answered the Princesse) you have beene prettily disposed to play your part, and take your pastime in beholding the folly of both our Loves, which I am the more willing to forget, in that thou hast so rightly judged of both our griefes. But leaving jesting I pray thee my sweet Syritha, what said my Servant when he delivered these Letters unto thee?

Madam, to say truth; nothing touching his Love, but imparted with such earnestnesse, for presenting them unto your hands, as might have made many prove to doe so charitable a

deed,

deed, craving it with speech so pittifull, and lookes so ruthfull; for mine own part, my heart imagining by your affection that the gods which caused your griefe, had fettered him, and well knowing where Love is united, the one weale is the others good; though I were hardly won to the same, I undertook the hazard of your goodwill, promising to return to him an answer wherein I shall breake promise, without you give consent.

Oh Syrena, doubts thou of my consent for answering of his kind Letters, which have endured so many nights unrest, and carefull dayes for his sake? No, heavens never grant me good in this world if I seek not his content, & that with so good love and affection as he offereth his love & service to me; unkind were I elle, that being beloved, should suffer my dearest Love to languish who may remedy it. Therefore Syrena, as thou hast plaid the Advocate, so make I thee my principall & chiefe Secretary; perule those lines, and rightly consider if his griefe deserve not to be pitied, then let me see thy skill in enditing, to the which thou shalt have my help. Delay the time no longer, hunger (my Wench) is sharp sawce (as those say which have good stomacks) and I measuring his desires by my own, imagine that meat cannot be more pleasing to the hungry, then the unexpected tidings of consent from his new acknowledged Love. Soft fire, Madam (qd. Syrena) makes sweet Malt, say our Dutch wives, your Ladiship is far wide; what, no sooner at the stile, but over, hast makes waste; Looke before you leape, lest a block unthought of chance to break your shins. What if these Letters impart his love, how are you assured thereof? Men are subtle, and can cast many colours to deceive women; all is not Gold that glistereth, nor all sugar that hath a sweet taste, under the greenest Grasse lurketh the poysoned Adder, the Crocodile sheddeth most teares when he seeketh most to deceive: Try ere you trust, Madam, repentance comes too late; therefore howsoever you affect him, conceale it: Lightly won is as lightly lost. The Labourer that gaineth his mony by hard labour, is more chary in parting therewith, then the purloyning Thiefe, or the riotous Youth, which by subtle practises drawes all hee can get from his kind hearted Parents to maintaine his inordinate Expences. Let him bite on the

bricle a while, yet gently time his Curre that he gall not, a little thing pleaseth a Child, and a good countenance is worth Gold to him that regardeth it, as he professeth. Weigh your owne Estate which are neere to this most famous Crowne of Trebisond, with the basenesse of his calling, which was no better then a Marchant: Consider what a Corrosive this love of yours would be to your honourable Father, should he know it, and how your Nobles would upbraide him for his birth, grieving to live in obedience to one so farre their inferiour. The envyous regard not what vertues he is possest with, which I must neeis say deserve to bee accounted: The man gaining honour by vertue and valour, is more worthy to governe the State then the Noble, which ignobleth his house by his bad demeanor. How many such there be in this Court I grieve to see, who finding licentious sly abuse themselves in such odious manner, that if your Ladiship heard the pittifull complaints of the Commons, crying out on the Prince for justice against them, and how by favour of their friends (ruling both the King and State) they are summoned, cleared of the crimes, and the poore complainant returned with a check able to breake the heart of a simple man: Abuses, which may be more lamented then easily remedied.

But touching the Heroick Champion from whom I have digrest, I spake not any thing to disparage his Love, nor to draw your liking from the Knight, but with you temper your Affection in such sort, that you may long enjoy it with content to you both, and so governe your Graces looks and countenances, that the lightnesse of the one, nor the liberall bestowing of the other give jealous heads any cause of suspicion. For Princes are great Markes and have many Eyes beholding them, and once perceived, what perill it may procure to either part your wisdome can conceive. Thus in duty have I spoken, and delivered a grosse advise which I referre to your Graces better consideration. Well hast thou said my Syrithe, quoth the Princesse, but what availeth counsell to a desparate mind? No more then he that seekes to quench the flame powreth Oyle unto it. I find thy Love so great towards me that I cannot requite it, which with such good regard balan-

ceth

reth each perill incident to both our States, if thou canst as well devise how wee may enjoy our delight, without which being perplexed cannot long endure, what is it that Amoretta shall ever enjoy but Amoretta shall command? Then as thou tendrest my good bethinke thee of some remedy, for my love to him is such as nothing may extinguish. Say my sweet Syritha, shall I by writing answer his Letters or no? In this I will be ruled by thee, how gladly soever I wish his comfort, in whom of all earthly creatures consisteth my most comfort. Experience is the best wisdome (quoth Syritha) who would ever have believed Loves power to be of such effect, how imperious soever he seemed, had they not heard and seene what I doe; through which I am compelled to recant my heresie and say Love is a god, or how is it possible he could command Princes? But to your Graces request, whereas you have referred the answers of Pheanders letters to me, I was never so voyd of reason, nor so desirous to be Councellour to your Excellence to take so great a matter upon me, yet shall I (if so please it you to heare mee) deliver my simple opinion as I would doe my selfe in the like action. The old Wives say, They that feed with the Devill must have a long spoone; and they that go about to master Love hath need of many good precepts: Disswade not your Grace I will not to forget it, for I see it is in vaine, neither would I wish you to answer by writing; for a paper is soone lost, and lost, to whose finding it shall come it is uncertaine; as soone to some envyous Enemy as a Wel-willer, in which some word simply meant of you or me, may be construed by them at their pleasure, where by your name may be brought in question, and a slander raised is not so easily suppressed; writing is a specialty, whereof the subtill Lawyer takes no small advantage. To avoid all which Casualties, this may you doe; pretend some matter of conference with him, and appoint the time when he shall attend your pleasure at your Lodging, comming secretly unto you, and at such time as the King your Father shall bee imployed in serious affaires, so may you use your speech at your pleasure. This would Syritha doe, your Grace may use your discretion.

I like

I like thy device well (good Wench) and give thee many thanks (quoth the Princesse) therefore faile not to meet him for thy promise, what else I referre to thy best judgement.

Now in faith Madam (qd. Syricha) you have made a good choice for a Soliciter, but take me as I am, this is my first suite that ever I was retained for; nor I doubt not (if I speed well now) of many Clients. As they were thus pleasant betweene themselves, they heard a Trumpet sound to horse, which caused the Princesse to send her Page to enquire the cause, who returned her answer, that the King with his traine were setting forward to hunt the wild Boare, which his Forrester had rowzed; This newes gave them cause of joy, hoping that Fortune favoured them with a happie time, which they were both loth to omit, doubting the like opportunity; the Princess especially who could not be quieted in mind, untill she heard her Knight answer for himselfe. Wherefore a Page was presently commanded to search for the Knight, willing him with such convenient speed as he could to meet Syricha in the Garden; the Page used such diligence that soone he was brought unto the Knights presence, whom he found solitary (as a holy Father) at his Orizons, whom the Page awaked his joyfull message which was welcome unto him, albeit doubtfull (whether of weale or woe) either to augment his sorrowes, or utterly to extinguish them. The sudden hearing of which caused him to pause a while, when having determined, courteously returned answer to the Gentlewoman that he would attend her, he rewarded the Page so bountifully, as he had cause to praise him of his well imployed Service. Syricha having received his answer by the Page, advertised the Princess thereof, who commanded her to hast left she gave the Knight cause of discontent by her long stay: but for all her speed Pheander was long there before attending her comming: who was no sooner of him perceived to enter the place, but his presaging soule was more delighted thereat then all the motions that could be imagined, after his courteous salutations done, spake as followeth:

Chap. IX.

How *Loves Heroick Champion* was brought to the Princesse presence by *Syritha*, their loves being discovered, a consent was of both parties agreed upon to love. The Knight discovereth himselfe to the Princesse: unto whom he unfoldeth all his love, with the Originall proceedings.

What Syritha, I know not what to imagin by thy sudden Message, yet willing to be resolved, as one that by thy answer expecteth his doome, either of life or death, I attend thy pleasure: say therefore sweet Lady, what saith the Princesse to my Letters? with whom Syritha purposed to be something pleasant, and not to cloy his stomacke with such pleasant confections, that he should surfet therewith, and framing a constenance to her Speech, she said,

Sir Knight, of all the Gentlemen in the Court of Trebisond, my good opinion was such of you, that on your word I durst have hazarded my greatest credit, which expectation thou hast farre deceived, and therefore not worthy to be accounted amongst such honorable men at Armes, which take their principall honour, holding their words with Gentlewomen. At the delivery of which Speech her that had some regard to the Knights countenance, might have thought him past phisicks cure: And withall standing so mute, it verily perswaded Syritha, that he was ready to deliver his interest of life, which made her alter her rough words, and with a smoother method new breake them, doubting that her Comedy begun in mirth, should prove a Tragedy to the great grief of the whole Countrey, which generally honoured him; wherefore taking him by the hand, she said, Sir Knight, I am sorry I have charged you so farre, what cause soever I had, but as Woman-like to blame with words, and no fit passion for a man of your profession. But you may comfort your selfe, I first pardon the offence against me committed (and entreat you) as you tender your credit with the Princesse Amoretta, that you faile not to repaire at such convenient time as you best can,

unto her Lodging; where if you hold your word you will excuse your Messenger.

Oh Syritha, how have thy Speeches tormented me, filling my Entrailes with such a confusion of comfortlesse thoughts as have overcome my Sences? Yet Syritha if thou be courteous, or have any sparke of Gentility abide in thee: Say my good Lady, what countenance gave the Princesse to my bashfull paper? Touchsafed she the reading of them? (Or how) To discomfort you good Knight (quoth Syritha) it were pitty, being already at so low a pitch, which pittieth me to behold, Comfort can I give none to thy desire but this, thy Sute is Love as your Letters import, in which despaire not: For thy Mistresse is a Woman though a Princesse, and how pittifull our Sexe is, I will not boast but wish thee not despaire; If thy Birth were as great as thy vertues, thou mighest bord and bed as good as the Princesse Amoretta, unto whom I will be a faithfull Solliciter. Mistake mée not Pheander, I speake as a friend, and so leave thée untill thy comming to my Lady, which detract not, for time lost is such a precious thing as can never be recalled. Before whom, when thou shalt come plead thine owne cause, and discover thine owne griefe. And so farewell.

Pheander, which had some greater hope by Syritha, her last Speeches, was so over-joyed: Yet after his Memento past, he saith; farewell the faithfullest friend in my distresse, that ever I found. Oh Syritha, happy maist thou be in thy love, and highly honoured amongst men, by whom my cares are thus comforted (faithfull Syritha) the worker of my heartes happy content, by whom past all hope I am by thy faithfulnesse and truth in delivering my Message, fréed of so heavy a burthen, as was likely to have torne my pore oppressed heart in a million of pieces. Thus applauding Syritha, he had almost forgotten his word.

Leaving further to discant on this plain song, returne wée to the Princesse, who was advertised by her Gentlewoman what had passed betwéen the Knight and her, not omitting his heavy lookes and pittifull Speeches: And then againe as glad to please the Princesse, whom shée was assured loved the Knight,

Knight, letted not at large to let out his honours gained, his comelinesse of person, bounty, and whatsoever the world admired in him, thee highly advanced: To the great content of the Princesse, who thought every moneth a yeare untill she saw him, whom she with hearty desire expected (long looked for, comes at last.) And Amoretta, who at a Casement waited diligently his comming, espyed her beloved Knight, what joy it caused let them judge, which better experience hath made perfect in Lovers delights. The Princesse having the sight of her so long desired Knight, sent Syritha to entertaine him, and to bring him to her presence. The Princesse striving to frame her countenance for his welcome, bethought her selfe of sundry meanes, sometime doubting by her too pleasant and kind usage to be thought too forward in Love, then what discomfort her heavy looks might move to him, whom she most desired to please. In this quandary sitting on a Pallet, leaning her head on her pillow, Syritha hath brought the Knight to her presence, who doing his duty was by the Princesse againe saluted.

Attending like the guilty condemned, his Sentence from her mouth, which was to give him either Life or Death, the Knight thus at a non plus overcome with the beholding of the Princesse excellent perfection, was by her the mirrour of all honour & courtesie, removed out of his oumps in this manner. Sir Pheander, whether I should chastise thy presumption in writing so boldly unto me (or no) I am not yet resolved, but before I acquaint my Father therewith, I thought good to heare thee speake, for that I would not suddenly disgrace thee, whom I have so often graced, as well to hear thy intent committing so great a folly, as what you can say in excuse thereof. Princes are not to be jested with, nor to be attempted in such manner by their inferiours, and therefore thou hast highly erred in that thou hast done, and incurred the danger of our strictest lawes, by which thou art already condemned, were they not knowne. The Knight standing at the barre, where Beauty sate chiefe Judge, was surprized with so many griefes, that he might hardly utter any word, yet revived by hope of those comfortable and sweet words pronounced by Syritha, he saith:

Gracious Lady, that I have presumed farre I cannot but acknowledge, yet that I have incurred such punishment as your Highnes inferreth, I deny unlesse Death be the guerdon alligned faithfull (for dutifull Service) and entire affection, urged me to seeke thy favour in love, without which I cannot live; so deeply are thy vertuous affections imprinted in my heart, wich if I enjoy not I desire no longer to breath. Therefore Phæander, if thou obtaine his love, that living dyeth continually for thee; do not slay the worn and this Blade so often imbrued in the bloud of mine Enemies, shall sacrifice his Masters own true heart before thy face, that thy cruell self (mine witness to thy self) how faithfull thy servant hath loved thee.

The Princesse grieved to heare these speeches, moved with great wrath could hardly forbeare the dropping of teares, yet modestly the ornament of Woman-kind, caused her to forge a counterfeit shew of displeasure to him, whose teares waring drops of bloud from her tender heart; that she might not so lodainly confesse her hearts desire, nor give him cause of utter despaire, she saith; Phæander, that thou maist see and seeing report in all places where-ever thou shalt become of Womans pity, I grant thee pardon for thy fault, and with thy pardon thy life, which was wholy in me to dispose.

For loving me as thy Prince I heartily thanke thee, but in seeking to obtaine my love as thy wife, that have been denyed to divers and sundry Princes, in that thou errest, let each estate frame themselves in Love to their equals, so shall they sooner obtaine their desires and their Loves in more tranquility be maintained. Thou knowest thy birth how base it is, and though for thy vertues it pleased thy Princely Father to advance thee, who cannot of his Princely nature but reward the deserts of the well deserving. If for his good to thee thou seek to rob him of his Child, therein thou shewest a very ungratefull mind, & laydst open unto the world thy base condition. Therefore persist to prosecute thy Suite, lest reason vanquish that brain-sick humour which so afflicts thee; in doing which thou shalt shew thy love to be thy selfe; For no greater conquest can be atchieved then conquering a mans own effects. Do this and thou shalt find Amoretta thy faithfull and assured

friend,

friend, who will be as carefull to advance thee, as I have found thee ready to pleasure me.

Alas good Madam (answered the Knight) I have often heard, the whole needs no Physitian, it is easier far to give counsell then to take it. The full gorged Churle little regardeth the starving creature at his gate, but (Madam) could you conceive the least part of many thousand griefes that afflict me, you would pity me at least, though you yeelded me no farther favour: If thy heart be not harder then the Adamant (pitty me) sweet Lady, and yeeld thy grace to augment my life or utterly deny me your favour for ever. I expect but your answer, for my resolution is no other then I have profest (dastards feare to die) but the Noble mind preferreth death which endeth all sorrowes, before a life to be continued with Discontent. The Princesse which was at her wits end, as full of griefe as he of sorrow, turned her Speeches from her matter, to question him of his Country, the manner of the Court and state thereof, thinking so to have beguild the time and to put him off for the present. But so long dallied she that she was forced in the end, to confesse her Love to be no way inferiour to his. Thus as I have said, demanding of the Knight many questions, shee earnestly intreated him to resolve her whether the Prince Armarius were such as the world reported him: who had the name to be a Paragon, excelling in all actions required in a Noble-man. The Prince hearing his Name called in question by the Princesse, on a sudden, beleeved verily that she had some secret knowledge of him, which made him with blushing Cheeks to say; What reports soever your Grace hath heard of that Prince Armarius I know not; a Subject I was to his Father, and ought to speake reverently of him (yet what is truth) and not for affection or despight, to say other then I will with my blood maintain. Wherefore Noble Lady, I will truly answer your demands.

The Prince whose Father was matchlesse, gaining the love of all men, with care and honour maintained the reputation of his Countrey, which by his carelesse Sonne is blemished, who neglecting the duty of a Child, without regard of Father, Crowne, or Kingdome, exiled himselfe, no man

knowes where, or whether he rest alive or no: Since which time, the King his Father, who loved him so deare (if Fathers love may be so deare) hath likewise absented himselfe, and liveth in exile: The Mother Queene, hath resigned her due to death, leaving (by losse of those honourable persons) their Country without a head, and their State by Subjects to be governed, whereby a ruine of the Kingdome is like to ensue, all proceeding from the Prince. A miserable Country is that (quoth the Princesse) and to be lamented; but more the losse of so Noble a race, the Father having borne such, and the Son (as report saith) so forward. But say (good Knight) quoth she, was there never any cause supposed of their departures; nor did not the Father through his harsh demeanor, for youth in these times take unkindly their Fathers unkindnesse: And age is froward, which frowardnesse might minister great cause of discontent. Madam, quoth the Knight, to my knowledge this I will say, my Father being a Courtier in some regard, whereby I came familiar with the Prince, and as youth will make choice of some one to participate with, so it pleased the Prince loving my Father well, to use my company in all his exercises, through which I saw his demeanour, with such reverent duty to the King acknowledged, and as kindly requited of the King, as on the earth might be found love more perfect, till his speech tayling in his mouth, he could utter no more. The Princesse giving heed to each word by him pronounced, albeit she saw the repeating of the Princes life, was somewhat combersome unto him, yet ceased he not to urge him, to shew such sorrow in delivering the story so as her desired. Ah Madam (quoth the Knight) at his departure began our Countries griefe and my sorrow, from whom in life, I could never be separated, such was my love to him, which refused h mirth, his Crowne, and dignities. A doleful tale hast thou delivered (quoth the Princesse) which I perceive moveth you to impatience, wherefore one demand and an end. The Prince Armatius made choise of you for his Companion: Then upon my blessing let me crave all Law of friendship exempted, did he not acquaint you with his determinations? For me thinks it is scant credible, that

such

such an unity should bee amongst men, their loves being so perfect, but he should disclose each secret intent whatsoever: Many reasons draweth me to suppose it, which I will omit, for I perceive I am too tedious: Your Ladiship urgeth mee farre, yet will I accomplish your request, which have power to command me.

The Gentleman who never offended, but in committing of this great offence long before having be like some motion of desire in his thoughts, became of desire in his thoughts, became of a pleasant Gentleman, the most melancholiest that could be found, that quite abolishing all company, he best contented himselfe with his secret cogitations; continuing this honour so long, that hee fell sicke of an extreame Feaver, which so increased upon him, as all Physickes reliefe was quite given over: So that small was the hope of his recovery, whose distresse the kind King, with the Mother Queen, grieved in such wise to behold, as in short time it was hard to be judged which of the three endured most extreames. But God that in adversity sends comfort, restored the Prince to some strength; belike receiving some comfort in his imaginations, and by his recovery the King and Queene were both so comforted, as in short time they were raised from their sicke Cabinets, to frolike it amongst their Noble Subjects, who joyed in nothing so much as in their healths. But how soone the Sun-shine of their happinesse was over-shadowed with clouds of comfortlesse care, grieveth me to recount; yet dare I not gain-say your Ladiships request. The Prince recovered of his Malady, made resemblance of such content, that none but himselfe could witnesse by the least suspition, his hearts discontent, yet oftentimes should I being seldom from his company, sighing with a number of farre fetched sobs, hear him say, Peerlesse Lady, would my Love were as well knowne to thee as to mine own heart, then doubtless wouldst thou pitty me who languish for thee, that art the only Princesse on the Earth, excelling in all vertues which beauty the Honourable, the report of which hath fettered my fancies to thee, that I protest to be thine, or never mine owne: Then looking with a gastly looke about him, to see if any overheard him,

him, he would fall into some other discourse ever applauding the rare perfections of his Mistresse, who was unknowne to all but only to himselfe, and I, who from the first he acquainted with the same: Briefly Lady (for I weary you with my discourse) ẏ love of his Lady hath drawn him from his Countrey, whose absence caused the Kings exile, and the Kings exile the Quænes death.

The Princesse hearing all these extreames to grow from affection, knowing well her owne hearts discontent, with a sigh from the deepest, which wrung teares from her heart, she said: Alas Noble Gentleman, whose joy so sone overwhelmed, hath heaped so many cares upon me, what folly was there in thee, that wouldest not disclose thy Love which burned so vehemently: Was the Dame so base that thou fearest thereby to ignoble thy issue, or of such high Estate thou doubtest to obtaine her: if either, by perswasions all griefes might have been mittigated of a Monarch, why thou by report deservest her: if a Beggar, thou mightst make her Noble what ere she were hearing of thy distresse, could she forbeare to pity thee? No, no, were her heart more harder then the Diamond, it could not chuse at the hearing thereof, but relent: Else, well worthy were she to be scorned of all Ladies, and never to bee named amongst the number of Women.

The Prince seeing the Princesse in this pittiful humour, thought it good striking when the Iron was hot, and taking the opportunity, answered her thus: Is your Ladyships censure such of hard-hearted Ladies, and will not be entreated of him, whose Love to you is no whit inferiour to the Prince Armatius; as himselfe would confesse were he present, and heard me recount the many griefes, wherewith love hath afflicted me; and might he be Judge, would allow me recompence for my Service in Love: But Madam, if without offence I might demand this; say Amoretta the Princesse of Trebisond were the Saint, unto whom this unhappy Prince had vowed his devotions, and that all the passions he hath endured are for your Love, would you vouchsafe him love in recompence thereof? The Princesse driven to her shifts at this demand, could not tell what to answer; yet sharpning her

wits

wits (as Women can doe) she said: Pheander, Love is not to be dallied with, as I have heard them say which speake by experience; therefore I cannot directly answer thy question, but were I the Physician that could cure his Malady, and had so good judgement of his affects as of mine owne, Charity would I should minister unto his Disease, what effect soever the potion would worke: provided this, that hee disclosed his griefe in time: Mistake me not Pheander, and pardon me if I conceale what I would utter, my thoughts are mine owne. Truth Lady (quoth the Knight) neither was the same demanded to urge any thing more then standeth with your good liking: Yet for the Prince, this I say, it were pitty he should die for Love. So say I (quoth the Princesse) for few men there be of that condition, and as seldome is such a one seene, as multitude of blacke Swans. Your error is great, Madam (quoth the Knight) for many have beene with love so overcome, that Kings have beene enforced to stoope to their Subjects, and the greatest Conquerours, whose valour many volumes record, by love compelled to forsake themselves, taking sundry shapes and many toyles, to gaine the love of their Ladies. I speake now Madame, for the Prince, whom I love well, and challenge your charity may be to him continued, for your Love is the only Physick that must cure him, or else all other helps are frivolous: In hope whereof, he breaths a lingring life, till your gracious consent finish his griefes, yielding to his desires in whom it resteth, to restore him banished to his Regall dignities, who is the cause of his exile: Dastardnesse hath caused him to conceale it, bearing the extremity of his passions with intolerable pain, whose flames increase by viewing your excellent perfections; The want of whose grace, haleth him on to desperation not able any longer to resist Loves assaults, which with such hot Alarumes assaile him, that longer he cannot endure them.

The Prince hearing her Knight plead for the Prince with such earnestnesse, leaving his owne Sute, to draw her to love him of whom her thoughts were least on, thought it some policy of the Knight, which imagined Love had vanquished her, swelling with anger at these new imaginations, her colour

changed into so many formes, that the least Child which had last the same, might easily have gest what small content those seen uttered speeches wrought. But doubting least with silence it should be perceived, with a heart full fraught with fury, she said; Deceitfull wretch, unworthy the favour of the simplest Drudge, that by thy subtill practises hast sought to insinuate thy selfe into my secrets, was it not, false Varlet, sufficient that I forbear the punishing of thy own bold writings, but to my face in colourable manner, deludest mee with tales of I know not what. Have I ever graced thee since I first saw thee, and requitest thou my favour thus, dallying with me as with thy inferiour, or some of thy base Trulles? No, no, use thy jest with such that can better disgest them, and from henceforth be warned (and warned) take heed how thou dare either by word or writing use any like motions, least I acquaint the World with thy impotent dealings, and by death thou receive the guerdon of thy ill: And so far as thou maist, for never expect further Favour at my hands.

The Prince hearing this finitive sentence, from her whose tongue was to pronounce his Life or Death, thought it high time to speake for himselfe before shee departeth, and staying her as she departed, and staying her as shee would have gone, hee humbly besought her not in displeasure to leave him, but with patience endure what hee could say: Which albeit shee might hardly be won to grant, yet her former affection banished choller in such wise, that he had liberty to speake, saying.

Gracious Lady, that I offended your excellence, who of all Earthly creatures I most honour, I heartily sorrow for it, judge me not so impudent or sencelesse, to move matter without some reason, especially enduced thereunto by your excellent favour, and charitable pitty of the wretched estate of that unhappy Prince, who hath vowed to love your Grace to the death; and by granting him your love, you shall draw him from death, and therby not only restore him, but still the hearts of many thousands with joy, which with teares continually lamenteth his losse, which is lost to them for ever, and shortly will be losse to himselfe and the whole World.

Unhappie Prince, why name I him Prince, whose miseries

ries is more then the most wretched Slave that liveth, who not able to endure the force of love hath forsaken himselfe to follow his owne affections, without knowledge of Father, King, or Subjects. Pale not Madam at the strangeness of the tale I have to deliver, nor let it seeme incredible that I am that unhappie Armatius, lawfull heire of the Carmanian Crowne, that Prince through whom so many miseries is befallen his Country, his Fathers care and cause of his carefull Mothers untimely death, who fettered in Loves bands by report of thy peerlesse beauty and vertues, hath drawne me to take habit of a Merchant, usurping the name of Pheander, the more unsuspected to attain the sight of thee whom my heart so desired; who if thou pitty me, live by thy love to doe thee honour, and without that, may no longer enjoy this life; in pursuit of whose love, if I dye, my Ghost among the rest of Lovers shall sing hymnes in laud of thy peerlesse Beauty.

The Princesse as one in a trance, could not tell whether she heard him speake or dreamed, yet noting his countenance which shewed a troubled Spirit, tickled with a lodaine joy, as Women be proud in their Loves, that her love to Pheander was metamorphosed to Armatius the Carmanian Prince, of whom her Fathers Courtiers reported such honours, she said; Pheander or how shall I call thee I know not, thou hast filled my Senses with a world of confused thoughts in recounting the strangenesse of thy fortunes, which I can hardly be drawn to beleeve, nor is it possible that the Prince Armatius could live in the Court of Trebisond so long concealed, without the knowledge of some one, if I might by reason be induced to beleeve the same, I would say more. Madam qd. the Prince, how soever I have disguised my self heretofore, as loath to be dishonoured, yet beleeve me in this that I said no more then is truth. There are if thou could'st not love Pheander being a Merchant for ignobling thy Noble house, yet as I am a Prince of Carmania, vouchsafe me thy liking, by whom thy honour can no way be disparaged, but by exchanging Love for love with him advance thy honour farre higher. Say now Madam all niceneſſe set apart, can you Love?

The Princesse whose love was equall though willinger the

would have coloured the same, yet moved with a pittifull desire to ease his griefe which was great, as also to ease her own heart which was not a little infected with the same Disease, their welfares depending both on her grant or denyall. After she had deliberated a while, string her hand in his which she eastly grasped, and leaning her head on his shoulder to cover the blushing of her Face, as ashamed of what she had to say unto him in revealing her owne griefe, she said:

Famous Prince, whom the world applaudeth, and our Courtiers Trebisond with wonder doe admire, that I loved thee being Pheander I cannot deny, and how many jarres I endured for thee, I omit; each particuler wringing teares from my heart, wch how willing soever it was to have made the same known, modesty restrained, laying before me many wrongs offered in Ladies love by such perjured Knights, as have protested with their tongues which their hearts never meant, whereby divers Ladies of honour have been dishonoured, and many lost their lives (which considered) blame me not, if I rather chuse to dye, then passe the bounds of modesty so farre as to seeke thy Love, or knowing thy griefe to blame mine (yeeld) before I heard thee avow on thine Honour what thy Letters imparted. But gentle Prince, that thou maist better beleeve what I report, how much soever my heart hath denyed to reveale, perswade thee, if I loved thee being Pheander and a counterfeit Marchant, assure you I cannot hate thee for that thou art Armatius (the one a Prince) the other an Inferiour, of whose Love were I assured & that his Tongue and heart agreed in one, Armatius should be in love so required, as never any should have interest in Arborettaes heart, but the peerlesse Prince of Carmania. At uttering of which, teares restrained her Speech which the Prince observed, and perceiving that she spake what her heart did thinke, he comforted her in this manner.

Faint not Madame, neither sorrow for those comfortable confections bestowed on a dying Creature, whose favours hath haled him from the Grave whereinto hee was like to have been swallowed, had not thy comfort reclaimed me, who living dyed for Love, which grace shall never bee forgotten:

And

And that you shall assure you, my Faith and love is firme and honourable, I protest by that Honour that ever the Carmanian Prince hath regarded, that my love to the Princesse Amoretta is no other but honourable, nor ever none hath had any interest in Armatius or ever shall, but the only beautifull and vertuous Princesse Amoretta; and on that take here my hand and with my hand, the Heart, Love and honour of a Prince. Syritha, lending an eare to this discourse hearing them so earnest, to put them from their melancholy toke the word at advantage, and comming sodainly to them, said! Madam, at finishing of bargains they shake hands, if there be any exchange betwéen your Knight and you, you were best to take witness, lest disliking the match he recant his word. Syritha (qd. the Prince) your Lady is beholding to thée for thy care (and I your debter) challenge it when you please. Sir (qd. Syritha) I thank you, but wilt please you remember your promise, and excuse Syritha (qd. the Princess) without my Lord the Prince his further intreaty, I pardon all faults cōmitted against me; for confirmation of which, get our Lawyer to draw an acquittance generall from the beginning of the world, and I will signe it. Nay Madam (answered Syritha) it were an evill Servant that will not take her Mistres word for a dozen or two of stripes which I am sure had béen the most, and if they should light on my ribs, might well grieve me, kill me they could not, my heart is of more valour then so. But Madame, shall Sir Pheander marry the Princess Amoretta that you call him your Lord the Prince? if that be the bargaine I feare me there is some fire in the straw. And how then (qd. the Princesse?) nay Madam (qd. Syritha) nothing, but I pray God give you much joy & make you happie in your Love. While they were thus pleasant, a Page brought word that divers Ladies were come to visit the Princesse, which caused them how loth soever, after many swéet embracings & loving kisses betwéen them enterchanged to give each other the farewell, parting better content then when they came together, having unburthened their hearts of many griefes, giving content to both by yéelding to Love, whom to their pleasing imaginations I leave, and speake of the Kings of Trebisond & Hungary.

CHAP. XX.

How the Kings of *Trebisond* and *Hungary* hunted with great delight, and what hapned them; With a pleasant discourse of a simple Countrey man, whom with his Mother, the two Kings by chance met withall; With the Letters of the Clowne to his Love, and Complaint of his Mother of wrongs done her by a man of Estate.

NOw these Kings following the Chase with great pleasure, as in pastime they greatly delighted, were so wearied with the same, and toyled with the extremity of the heat, which made them chuse some place under the shadow of the spreading Trees to refresh themselves, where they had not long rested, but they were espyed of an ancient Woman, the widowe of a good Yeoman and her Son, who having Womanen not farre from thence, were carrying them victuals. The poore aged Woman having seene (as she thought unseene) the Kings, doubting they were some of those robbers that hanted those mountaines, would have slitted from them another way, but were interrupted of the Kings, who lovingly calling them, drave them both into such shaking feare, as they which are overburthened with a Feaver. The King who graciously regarded their timorousnesse, comforted them with all the favourable Speeches he could use, protesting unto them, that in their Company they should receive no discourtesie by none, if the King himselfe were present, and therefore willed them to set feare apart, and to tell them what they were, the cause of their feare, and their businesse they had that way: These honourable Speeches of the King much uttered, comforted them, wherefore in such blunt manner as her bringing up requited, she said: Gentlemen, for so your seene, if your inward conditions answer your outward habit (as many in this age doth) whose Garments might become men of great worth, if Apparell may make a man worthy, yet divers times cover those Carkases, void either of worthy, honestie, or other good condition. Pardon my harsh behaviour (gentle Sir) and blame me

not

not for avoyding the way, experince hath taught me to eschew harmes, who to my cost have dearly paid for my learning, having my goods spoyled at home, and my selfe indangered abroad, & without offence may I speake it by such, whose Countenance and attire, might well have deceived them of more judgement then my selfe.

The King delighted with her plaine Speeches, demanded where she dwelled, and whether that she had a Husband, or lived as a Widow? Oh Sir, if any Gentility abide in you (quoth she) urge me not to to deliver a Tale of such ruth, as your questions import. The remembrance of my passed pleasant life, when I call to mind, with the cares I am now combred with, many sundry wayes, are so displeasing unto my grieved heart, as I may not without many teares shed, recount the same. These words spoken in heavinesse noted of the King, made him more importunate to heare him rest, and therfore willed her, all feare set apart, to reveale unto him what estate she lived in, and if any wrongs were offered her, he protested by Oathes which might have been well believed, to remedy it, yea, if it were the King himselfe. The carefull Widow now encouraged by these comfortable Words, albeit she hoped of small relieve from him, partly to ease her heart, and a little to disgrace her Advarsary, which was mighty, all the revenge she could take, thus said; Sir, ẏ I may not seem discourteous to you, whose courteste offered is more then I can any way deserve, but in prayer for your welfare, which pittieth a poore Widowes Estate, whose Weale is the good of her poore Fatherlesse Orphants, herewith pitty my case, consider thereof as you shall best please. Then drying her eyes, which like gutters bedewed her Cheekes, shee said. Not farre from hence (gentle Sir) is my poore Cottage, where this fifty winters I have maintained the Port of a poore Woman, my Husband in his Life delighting in Hospitality, and on his Death-bed gave me charge to doe the like, which I have observed, hurting none, nor never denying any good to them that sought to me: The Needy I harboured, whom with my bread and such Ryands as God sent, I have fed.

But now Sir (quoth she) and therewithall a deepe sigh witnesse

nesse of her hearts heauinesse, restrained her Speeches, yet after some pause said; But now Sir, such is the oppression of the covetous in Authority, that my living is taken from me, and I and my Family compelled to seeke harbour where we can get it, if God the comfort of the distressed prouide not for us within this Moneths, longer we haue not there abide. Tell me Woman (qd. the King) what is he that thus iniureth thee, and the manner how, as I am a true Subiect to the King I will neuer leaue thee till thou art with Iustice reuenged on him. Oh Sir (qd. she) vrge me no more to that; for my Aduersary being Honourable and of accompt with the King (although the iniurong I sustaine is great) yet will hee reuenge himselfe on me and mine, as my Life will be the least and last such is his bloody mind, who hath neither Conscience nor thought of any god, else after so many yeares of peaceable possession of this Tenement in name of my Husbands ancestry, as our Euidence doth specifie, hee would not thus extreamly deale with those whom Charity would hee should comfort; but such is his Cruelty who ought to be courteous, that his Couetousnes is neuer satisfied, hating all from the poore and profiting none but himselfe, his Children or Seruants, who reape the benefit of many mens labours, for what Sute passeth but he must like of? Or what will the King deny that he will not grant? Lamentable is it to heare the complaints of the Commons of all estates, how in secret they murmure: Nay, not only against him but I may say, by others reports, that the Kings name is called in question of many all proceeding of this Canker of men, who guiding all abuse all; the Souldier serving for his Countries Honour scanteth his pay, which causeth him to fall to Robbery, and other vnlawfull exercises; The Farmer, Grasier, and such that liue by the benefit of their Tillage, feeding Cattell, and other hard labours, haue their Cattell taken, their Corn and what they enioy, and driuen to seek their mony by long Sutes, and in the end glad to bestow the one halfe to be assured of the other, yet dare none complaine, how great soeuer the oppression be.

Thus Sir, to satisfie you, I haue spoken the truth what I haue

have heard, and partly that I know, which I and many more may lament, but cannot remedy it. But Sir, what I have spoken I hope you will conceale, for if you be friend to him whom I dare not name, yet you can imagine; If under your faire words lurk deceit, and that you have sifted me to betray me to his cruelty, such ill befall thee as I wish him, whom I have cause to curse, and others with me whom he hath likewise wronged. But had the King knowledge how he useth his Subjects, especially his Tenants (who is our good Landlord) and thus many yeares hath been, he would redresse it; but that he having the charge of all, have received a great fine to thrust me from my right, which GOD remedy and grant our King to understand his Tyranny. Amen (quoth the King) may it be possible that he (whom I know) the King hath loved so dearr, and advanced to such honour, should seek his dishonour in so base manner? Well good Woman (quoth the King) that thou shalt know I favour thy cause, and sorrow for the wrongs offered the Commons, I will informe ye King what I have heard, and thou shalt have justice, else never let me live. Therefore see that three dayes hence thou faile not to come to the Court, unto the Kings Porter deliver this Signet, who upon sight thereof shall bring thee to my presence, in the meane time comfort thy selfe, and faile not to meet me at the appointed time. The aged Widow, whose heart sorrow and feare had over-burthened, doubtfull least her last Speeches should have caused her greater trouble, was by the King comforted, whom she had no knowledge of, yet prayed God to preserve him in peace and much happinesse, and so would have departed. But the King melancholy at these reports willed her to stay, for that he would have some Speech with her Sonne which seemed very simple, shewing by his demeanour how hee had beene brought up: Wherefore to delight him and to drive those melancholy dumps away he questioned him of his yeares and bringing up, and how he lived, whether a Batchelor, or married; which questions were answered with such simplenesse as greatly delighted the King.

As the Kings were thus pleasantly discoursing with him, it fortuned ye King of Trebisond to espy a paper in his bosome,

which, for hee seemed by his Inckhorne at his girdle to bee a Clarke, perswaded themselves, that if it were not some reckoning or remembrance, it was some worthy worke, which made the King require a sight thereof, which how loath soever he seemed, making often denials it might be accepted: After many perswasions he pulled the same out, which was folded in most curious manner, cater-cornered, and subscribed.

Why how now friend? This is suspitious, that in such secret manner (quoth the King) you carry Letters, refusing to shew them when they are required? It may be Treason against the State, therefore I will by your leave see it. Oh Gentleman (quoth the Youngling) in his clownish manner, if you can I pray you let it alone, or at least, if you read it, let not my Mother heare. For my life (quoth the King) it is some sound stuffe, and matter worth the sport, wherefore tearing the Seale which was as broad as a shilling, of the best blacke waxe the Cobler would bestow on him, they read the Contents thus. ——

To the joy of Hobbinot, *Peerlesse* Mopsa, *thy hearty Lover greeteth thee.*

HOny *Mopsa*, more sweeter then the finest Sugar, or the spiced Wine sold for eighteen pence the quart, of thy honesty being little, I say little, good Ale needs no signe, for such are thy vertues, that they shine over the whole Parish, like the Moon in her Eclipse: *Cupine*, I applaud thy dignities, by whose power my heart hath sworne Love in a fraile to thee, for which good turne, and that thou shalt the rather further my Love, I vow every *Christmas* day during the Lease of my life, to carry to thy Chappell, two halfe penny white Loaves, and a Pot of the best Ale, with the appurtenances, and to verifie my word to thee, I sweare by my Loves hand, so white as the boulted Rye loafe, never to faile, if it cost me a faire groat of silver: In recompence of which, as thou art a God, thou wilt cause *Mopsa*, who like a sneaking Wench hath stollen my heart to joyne issue with me, and love me with so good a zeale as I love her, which I may sweetly say, yea, and sweare it too, is with so good a

heart

heart as ere I plaid the Truant from Schoole. Oh *Mopsa*, bee it knowne unto thee by these presents, the Indictment of my heart roote, and the Superscription of my shaking hand, that thou art the only joy and delight of thy loving *Hobbinol*, who plungeth like a Pack-horse in the Mire, over head and eares for thee, sowcing to the Gulfe of hearts griefe, as a Sowes face in a Bryne Tub: Yea, like as fire in the Brewers Furnace I burne, and all for thee. O *Mopsa*, as thou art handsome and well favoured, so bee thou pittifull, and pull a handfull of cold Love from thy heart to quench the flame; which like the great Hill that burneth consumeth me, so much that as many as come within smell of me, stopping their Noses for feare of infection, with a troubled voyce say; Fye on the filthy wretch, the cause of it: Thy Love my deare, is the only cause; Thou art my Jewell, my Pearle, my Diamond, without thy Love, nothing can bee pleasing unto *Hobbinol*, by yielding thereof a grant with consent and good liking, thou unburtheneſt my heart of sorrow, as one should unlade a Ship, but if thou deny, bestowing the same on some Clowne my inferiour, and nothing worthy to enjoy thee so Marmelade a Lasse, my branding blade shall broach my side in such manner, that my puddings forsaking their habitation, my belly shall be no more desirous of the good White-pot and Bacon, wherewith it hath beene so often filled. If thou bee pittifull *Mopsa*, save the life of a loving Batcheler, and sodainly let me know thy Mind, or else farewell to thee, farewell to the World? Yea, adieu to all the brave lusty gallant Youths of our Parish: To whom so often I have led the Morrice, to my Eternall rebuke, amongst all the Wenches, whose secret voyces might be heard to whisper these words of great comfort: (Oh excellent *Hobbinol*) to all these, and more then Memory will give me leave to recount, farewell.

By *Jone Juniper* I vow a fortnight I'le not live without thee, but my body dying for thee, shall bee by our Batchelers intombed raggedly, where Loves Champions are laid.

To furnish my Funerall, I bestow my fallow Cow given me by that good old woman my Grandame, my faire Suite o Russet, whereon I bestowed Thirteen pence in dozen lace, made to delight thee: I bestow upon thy Brother *Nicke*, let him weare

it for my ſake, that every Holiday thee put'ſt on, thou muſt remember mee whom thou haſt caſt away, breaking out in ſome place thy ſorrow for the ſame, that the GODS revenge not my death, as on that ſhiftleſſe *Creſſide*, for her Knight *Troilus*, for more true have I beene to thee, then the Vie to the Oake, or the meat (within) to the Egge-ſhell. And the more my truth, the greater thy torment, if Clarkes ſayings may bee believed (who can tell) for they were all wiſe Men, I ſay no more, becauſe I cannot.

But I wiſh to dye, unleſſe thou grant,
Therefore my Wench, looke not ſo ſcant;
For if thou doſt, it may thee grieve,
When I am dead, that thou ſhouldſt live,
To heare the Wenches which will ſay,
Mopſa hath ſlaine her *Hobbinoy*,
Thus will thy name a by-word bee,
'Mongſt bad and good of each degree:
Then kill not him ſo cruelly,
That for thy ſake hath ſworne to dye.

Thine conſtant till Doomes day, faithfull
Hobbinol.

The King greatly pleaſed with this invention, for that it abercame his melancholy, willed him to ſay whether he were ſo farre in love as he profeſt: Am I, quoth Hobbinol (I that I am) and how and I be, doe you know Mopſa that you demand ſuch queſtions? Or will you knowing my griefe, perſwade her from my Love? The King hearing him ſo earneſt gaue the more credit to his words, willing him to keepe the matter ſecret to himſelfe, and to come with his Mother to the Court at his time appoynted; againſt which, he had by ſuch ſecret eſpials as he procured, learned the truth of this Noble man, and his injurious dealings, which like a juſt Prince he requited with death: And cauſed a Proclamation to be made, that whoſoeuer they were, which could make proofe of their wrongs, ſhould come by a day preſixed, where their cauſe ſhould be heard, and reſtitution made, which in ſuch ſort was accompliſhed that their Lands, Leaſes, Plate, and Jewels were diſtributed

stributed to the wronged. The Widow who first gave notice thereof, the King enriched with greater possessions to maintaine her Hospitality, and Hobbinot, for that his Mopsa should not for want of Wealth refuse him, he bountifully rewarded, so that every one was pleased, and returned content to their oldne Homes.

Chap. XXI.

How the King of *Trebisond* furnished the *Hungarian* King with Forces, to recover againe his Kingdome, of which *Loves Heroick Champion* is Generall: With their Adventures at Sea, and honourable Conquests by Land, with their Victories.

NOw Gentlemen, this History shall shew you how Marmaricus King of Hungary, expected the aid of Trebisond, for restoring him to his Kingdom, which promise the King so regarded, that in short time through the diligence of those Captaines to whom the charge thereof was committed, the number appointed was furnished with shipping, Ammonition, and Victuals for the Army, of whom the Trebisondian King toke the Muster, appointing their Leaders. The chiefe (by name of Generall) for the Service was the Heroick Champion, who was urged unto it by the two Kings in such manner, that no excuse nor delayes, which hee could make might be accepted, unlesse hee should by him to much refusall purchase the name of Coward: This choyce greatly disliked the Knight, whose Warres in Love had but newly begun to take successe, who scarcely assured of the Princesse, although her promised Faith might put him in comfort, yet weighing the unstability of their Sex, he doubted lest his absence might draw her to that such he would heedfully regard being present.

The Tydings of her Fathers Election made of her Love for Generall, as Novelties are rife and flye with swift wings, came unto the hearing of the Princesse, unto whom if they were irksome, suppose you that know how grievous the parting of two faithfull Lovers are, who having her only felicity in contemplating of her beloved Armatius, their joyes but

now in the Blossomes, were so nipt in the Spring, as care banished all future Happinesse, and Sorrow began to claime her wonted place in both; but especially in the Princesse, who framed of the weaker mould, heavinesse had taken the more Impression in her, so that she forsaking all Company, her chiefest delight was to be solitary, where she might with deepe sighs and many brinish teares unburthen her overcharged heart, cursing bitterly the cause, and causer of separating her Love. In this melancholy uttering such speeches of dispaire, as though shee saw the dreadfull Messenger of Death already seized upon the valiant Knight.

The Knight who could take as little rest, as his Lady pleasure, could find content in no place, untill hee came to the Princesse lodging, whom he found in this passion which was more grievous then all the rest, her blubbered Eyes pressing blood from his heart, beholding her in that plight, whose happie content was his onely joy. But how troublesome so ever it was unto him, with wisdome hee advisedly weighed, that cares must be comforted in time, least taking deepe root they will consume the heart Subject unto it.

Therefore after many kind perswasions used, hee laid before her the honour of the place assigned him, and what infamy would redound unto him refusing it, with the dishonour of him, and staine to his Progeny for ever, the cause being right, and the action of her Princely Father so charitable, whereon the welfare of a whole Kingdome consisted.

The Princesse whom Griefe had neare overcome, hearing her beloved speake so honourably, and well considering it was greatly to his infamy, to bend her Father, though hardly wonne to patience; yet armed with hope of his valour and fortunate successe in his Journey, reason and wisdome, subduing Griefe and Sorrow, shee granteth her consent, heartily praying for his safe and sudden returne, to his eternall honour and increasing of their hearts content.

Time that stayeth not causeth these Princes to part, Pheander to give directions for his Journey, his Provision all to make, but such care had hee of the same, as that hee was suddainly provided of all needfull things, expecting a faire

wind

wind for imbarquing his Companies, which God sent as they desired when each one taking leave of their Friends, with many a loath departing farewell, he betake himselfe to the mercy of the waves, who by his goodnesse that commandeth and governeth all things favoured them with so happie a gale that in short time they might discry the high Land of Ægypt which being by his skilfull pilots knowne, they struck their sayles to Hull, untill a generall Councell was called, where every man had liberty to deliver his advice for the benefit of the Action.

Where after long debating and each perill advisedly weighed, it was determined the Fleet should be put out againe to Sea, least they being a great number should be descryed, and their intent thereby made frustrate. To bring their purpose to better effect, a Frigate was secretly manned to avoyd suspition, who in the night rowed hard aboard the shoare, with Commission to take what ere he were they could first lay hold of, they might be the rather advertised of the estate of the Country, and where the King was.

This device fosted to such effect, that through the great diligence of y Lord Diphilus, who was appointed for the same, as one desirous to gaine Honour, by dawning of the day they recovered a Rocke which opened with one of their principall Ports, under which unseen they might shelter themselves, and yet have sight of each Shallop whether he were Fisher or other that came or went. Long had they not layne expecting of their desires, but fortune who favoured their enterprise discovered unto them a Galley bound for Babilon, fraight with many Passengers of honour, and exceeding rich with Plate Money and Jewels. This Galley first descried halfe dismated the company, who feared thee had been a man of Warre sent on purpose to surprize them, so that each one had greater desire to be gone againe then attempt any thing against them. But in extreamues is the Noble mind best tryed, as the Lord Diphilus in this, who seeing the Cowardize of such base companions, first by fair perswasions encouraged them to the attempt, shewing in his countenance his resolution, and arming them with hope of victory, not omitting the reward of so honourable

nourable an action, which if they escaped with victory being the beginning of their enterprize, deserved more to be recompenced then all the rest. To give you courage my hearts (quoth he) I say not to you, goe but follow me your Leader, who will either win her, or lose my life in so good a cause. But these Speeches with those bastards prevailed not at all, who seeing the match unequall, cryed still to be gone, but Diphilus who weighed his honour farre above all, moved with a great impatience at their denyall, with his Rapier drawne came amongst them reviling them with odious Speeches, & protesting whosoere he were that should in the least sort either by word or countenance make shew to returne, should with his own hand be murthered, & so long as he might breath no faint-hearted villain should dishonour him, who came to gain honour. Therefore (sweet bloods (quoth he) take courage & feare not death with honour, is to be valued more then life with a Kingdomes possession, who so followeth me, shall find me ever his friend, and what ere I possesse shall be interest in it. The company how loth soever they were to be won to so hard an adventure, seeing the Noble man so resolute thought it bootless to refuse him, or to make shew of dislike, holding it more welcome to keep his honourable friendship by their forward adventuring, then procure his envie by their Cowardize, and seeing it high time to resolve the Galley approaching them neare, they cryed to proceed and they would all follow him. Diphilus pleased with their willingnesse, had scarce leisure to give directions for the fight before the Galley came within hayling, whose force being such and so well manned as she was, made small account of the Frigot, who although they hailed many times yet making as if they heard not, bore up with them and valiantly without words, entred her in the Poop, putting them from their Ordnance, where they within hard with their pistols, Demiters, and other needfull weapons valiantly behaved themselves. Diphilus crying still Courage, courage Hungary, so long that in short time the Cavaliers were all armed, and his company leaving the Frigot entred all the Galley, as lawfull prize to be shared amongst them. The Noble Diphilus having entred the Frigot, he kindly with words of favour and

promise

promise of liberty, with great reward to ye slaves, urged them to apply their Labour, which with so willing hearts accomplished his request, that in short time they had sight of their Fleet, and beare with them all they might, which being descried, they could not imagine whether the Galley were friend or no; wherefore the Generall to avoyd perill, as Wisdome with Valour is requisit, doubting that by fighting or other mischief they might annoy them, he called by his Flag of councell, the Commanders of each Ship & Galley, advising them to take great regard how they suffered the Galley to bord them. By that time the whole Fleet was prepared in Squadrons to wing, fine and fine, warlike and brave. Diphilus came up with them, when the Fleet hailed them they espyed his own Colours advanced on the Pope, and another Ensigne hanging under her sterne, wch sight gave them great cause of joy: To signifie their gladnesse for his successe, each ship in ye forward with their Ordinance & small shot according to the manner of the Sea bad him welcome. In which Tryumph, unhappily which negligently was shot from a Hargubuze, was the Noble Diphilus wounded, to ye great griefe of all the Nobles.

The Generall having understanding thereof, in his shallop bordeed him with all the speed he might, carrying with him his own Surgeon & such as professed Physick, doubting the griefe to be more dangerous then it proved, whereof, albeit the report was first offensive to him, y[illegible]comforted in this comfort, the Wound not mortall they regarded it as nothing; when the Generall had carefully seene the wound searched and drest, enquiring what they were which hee had taken, hee caused all the chiefe of them to be called unto him, who on their Examinations would confesse little, which forced the Generall to put one of the inferiours Attendant on Phydamia, the Ægyptian Kings Brother, to be tortured, who forced with the cruelty thereof confessed what they were, and how their going for Babylon was to intreat a Peace with the Emperour, who as they were informed levyed a power to subvert their Countrey, in revenge of the wrong offered Timoclea Sister to the Hungarian King, staine in a Battell fought at Sea by the Ægyptian King. This newes was no sooner revealed their wel-

come, for hereby they were assured of an expected Friend, yet enquired the Generall, whether their King had married the Princesse Timoclea, or no, and where he lived? Sir (q. the Egyptian, after the victory obtained, wherein the Noble Marmaricus perished, the King my Master furnished for such an attempt, without further stay or suffering them to gather head, which he was sure they would doe, hearing of their Kings ill successe, to prevent which he framed his course thither, where they speedily arrived, and by their power and policy subdued the cheefest of the Nobility, who having them sure, they sally and in short time overcame the rest, where he was by generall voyces (though) against their liking Crowned King of Hungary. How he punished the Nobility, I omit, embracing them, and raising in their places them far unworthy such honour & reputation, so that neither Gentleman or other of account, but liveth in great servitude & slavery, glad to be relieved with needfull Victuals and Apparell, at their hands which themselves have often fed.

The Princesse for all the perswasions he can use, he cannot in Love obtaine, yet hath he used the good Lady more cruelly then I would willingly repeat, the strangeness of her tortures being such, as few but doe greatly pity. And now as our last newes imparted unto us, he hath appointed a time wherein she must resolutely answer him to his content, or end her life in fire. The which cruelty of her used, reported by Merchants of Babylon, with the vertues of the Princesse, and coming to the Emperours eares, being now in the prime of his years, either of Policy being mighty to release her, or whether to make her his Lady and Wife, I cannot say, but he hath required her in Marriage, pretending great Love unto her; which the King will not grant unto, but in words of great despight hath answered him, In such manner, as he greatly disliking hath with fire & sword defied him, who being a Prince of very great might and force, your Nobles of Egypt have thought good rather to joyne with favourable shewes of Friendship, then abide the extremity of his fury. Lo Sir (q. he) thus have I satisfied your request, which is all I can doe. And for the same (q. the Knight) receive thy liberty, with what other favour I may doe thee.

These

These newes was as pleasing to the Heroick Champion, as if he had beene possessed of the Crowne, and having such advantage, holding it small policy to lose any time, commanding Diphilus, committing the charge of his Prisoners unto his speciall regard, he hasteneth to his own ship, where, unto Marmaricus King of Hungary he recounted what he had heard, desiring it might be prestently taken, whereby the Enemy might be surprized at unawares, so might they finish their intents with lesse danger & more honour, on which they agreeing, they summoned the chiefest, unto whom the Knight recounted what the Ægyptian had declared, beseeching the King, whose cause it was to speake his mind; then the rest to give their advice, what they thought was best to be done for accomplishing of their desires, and planting the King in his owne Countries.

These questions propounded, each particuler perill with each advantage, and occasion which offered good successe was throughly debated, when each one had delivered their mind, Pheander, whose Honour was no lesse in ye Ballance, as one that desired no Worldly possessions so much as the Reputation with his Peeres and the King, said; Noble Gentlemen, you have all like resolute, brave & hardy men at Armes, shewed in your speeches the desire you have to do this Noble King that service for which we come, if therefore you will incline your eares to my opinion among the rest, I shall acknowledge my selfe greatly favoured by you. The whole company which by your selfe was allowne to his Love, was easily won to this request, and willed him to say on. which he did in this manner.

My Noble Lords, and friends in Armes, touching these motions made for our proceedings, it hath beene by the Ægyptian reported whom we do credit, the King is in possession of Hungaria, which Crowne we know all he hath dishonestly usurp. The Princesse she in such extreame, that by his cruell censure is not long to live, unlesse against her will she grant to Love him, who is lothsome in her eyes. To prevent which, it behoveth us to search the best meanes that we can, and for that every one hath given his censure, this is my advise, that having these Nobles in our possession, in whom consisteth the strength

of his Realme, our company being lusty and strong, we will range their confines, where finding place and opportunity we may surprize them at unawares, who being lulled in peace shall be the more impatient. That done, we will with all convenient speed passe for Hungaria, where I doubt not but to come before the time limits the Damsells for her answer, and to rescue her, delivering the possession of the Crowne into the Kings hand. The Knight having said, presently it was confirmed, and each Captaine departed to his charge according to directions given, entred the Confines of Egypt, where they mouth by such policy directions of Loves Heroick Champion, that they Landed in the dead time of the night the greatest part of their Armies, marching in warlike order towards the City of Memphis, where the King kept his chiefe Court, and where their greatest force was. But before they could discover the Walls, or come to view the same for any advantage they were descryed, and the Gates shut, against whom the Citizens made such power as they could for their defence, which unexpected of the Knight, caused him to stay untill himselfe went to know their pleasures and to deliver his owne intent. And mounting himselfe, onely accompanied with his Herald and one Trumpet, he came before the Walls summoning them to parley, which was answered again by another Trumpet, and such of the Nobility as was within, shewed themselves unto him, demanding a cause of his comming in Armes to disturbe their Dominions, and the Subjects to their King.

Nobles of Egypt, answered Loves Heroick Champion, Maramarcus lawfull King of Hungary, whose Crowne your King Mimaleon unjustly withholdeth, preserved by Heavens power for your Scourge and to revenge the blood of those Innocents slaine by your cruelty, is come with Fire and Sword to require his right, which if you accept and will deliver, he sends you by me mercy, if you deny and doe not surrender your Crowne of Egypt, with all the Royalties, honours, priviledges and Customes thereunto belonging, and become his faithfull Subjects and Liegemen, you shall all perish with the Sword, and your Country flaming with Fire, shall be

overs-

overthrowne in such manner, that in short time to come, there shall be nothing found but the ruines of your gorgeous Pallaces and stately Cities; this hath he vowed by the Honour of his name; therefore chose like wary Champions, and let me know your wills, for no detraction may be used.

The Egyptian Peers, which heard the name of Marmaricus whom they long sithence supposed dead, were surprized with a suddaine feare, in such manner as their senses were deprived, and they rested like men in Extasie fearing the revenge of him whom they did all know, was by their King highly wronged, yet shewing the Nobility of their minds shaking off feare, they said; Sir Knight, thy unlooked for message is such as we know not suddenly how to answer; neither will wee like faint-hearted Peasants derogate from our noble Ancestors, the Honour they long maintained, with Cowardise to deliver that, which nature and Fidelity urgeth us to defend, our Lives we esteeme as they are, vaine and every day subject to casualties and Death; nor doe we enjoy that small time given us, but onely for our Commonwealth and the benefit of our Courtesy, being pillars on whom the State dependeth: You have Dastard like waited opportunity to take us at advantage, our King not present, whose Right and interest wee are sworne to maintain. Therefore to Marmaricus say; That as we serve our King, and live by his Grace, wee will with our dearest Blood withstand the invasion of any foraigne Prince whatsoever. If our King as you alledge, have offered wrong unto him, let him revenge him on him, and seeke his amends where hee may get it; for other entertainment let him not looke for here.

Loves Heroick Champion hearing their resolution, greatly commended their valour and loyalty to their Soveraigne, who seeing their truth pittied them, and wished all men so faithfully minded; yet how well soever he liked their answer, their intents were to be considered who came with more resolute minds, then to be won with faire words, and therefore returned with all hast to the Campe, whereto the King he briefly delivered the summe of their answer, which the King took no

pleasure to heare, rather desiring their submission by courtesie then effusion of Blood; yet not to pitty them in such manner, to give over the advantage he had; wherefore that they might be assured of his resolution which came to conquer from his usurping Foe, taking his Army which was led by the appointed Generall, he brought them before the City unto whose they gave many sharp and fierce Alarums, and were valiantly repulsed not without great losse of either part. Thus continued the assault long and dreadfull, till Pheander observing the time of the Princesse Timocleas death to draw neare, when either she must be relieved or dye that extreame death assigned, hee determined to put all upon Fortune to see the end, & not longer to prolong the time. And calling those whose valour hee had most assurance of he made known unto them his intent, requiring their company, whereunto freely performers servers, desirous to be partners with him in his actions, which were in all things very honourable. The Knight assured of his friends and followers in this action, gave directions to all Captains at the going downe of the Sun, to be ready furnished with their Companies to bid the Enemy battell, doing their best before that place where their chiefe force was, in the mean time he with his accomplices would assaile some other part which was of lesse consequence to defend it selfe.

Thus these Noble Gentlemen, having determined to win the Honor or lose the Saddle, neglected no time that against the appointed houre, each man in his place was ready furnished, and most valiantly accoutred with all warlike Ensignes to enter the City, battering, scaling, and each severall wayes attempting that policy or valour would permit to bring the City to ruine, and banquish the Enemy, which was most nobly defended with great courage and much losse on either part. While they were in fight on each part, it is not to be forgotten, how Loves Heroick Champion with his associates seeking opportunity, by chance lighted on the side of an old wall, which being somewhat decayed they by industry of their hands and painfull toyle easily made the breach such that they entred at pleasure, and passing through the streets which led to the assaulted Gate, molested no man untill they came thither,

where

where entring the same slew the watch and opened the Gate, advancing the Trebisondian Kings Colours on the top thereof, crying ever in their way as they passed Hungary, Hungary.

This cry amazed the Citizens, and armed the Trebisondians to the better attempt, who entred to the rest with such courage and heat them that they had soone banquished the defendants, who to save their lives had betaken themselves to their Churches as places of Sanctuary, from whence they sent their Wives, and Infants all disrobed to search the King, and in their names to require his pardon, such diligence made the modest Matrons that they were brought by Pheander to the King, where prostrating themselves at his feet, their Faces bedewed with teares, they most humbly besought him to take compassion on them, their Husbands and Children, that as he was a Conqueror, so with favour to use the glory of his victory, as the poore Subjects might not have cause to complain of his cruelty, who had none nothing blame-worthy but as true Subjects to their Soveraigne. The King, whose heart was moved with pity of their sute, gently take them up measuring their calamity by his owne misfortunes, and bethought him of their fealty, yet pretending a shew of unkindness forrefusing his mercy proffered them by his noble Generall, he would not be intreated suddenly to grant them Life, which the Noble Pheander offered him and like himselfe, weeping their faith to their Prince and weale of their Country, which with their Lives they had sought to maintaine he was content to remit their fault and not only to pardon their Lives but restore them to all their former Liberties, and places of Honour without any disparagement to their royalty, so that they would acknowledge him their Soveraigne, and be as faithfull to him and his, as they had shewed themselves to that Usurper his enemy. This choice at first seemed hard, yet of two evils the least is to be chosen; as these Nobles of Egypt, who loving their Lives, Wives, Children, and what they possest, to be in the hands of Strangers whom they could not withstand, making a vertue of necessity, were the rather bent to yield themselves unto the Kings pleasure, at the intercession of their Wives, whose teares then in abundance moved them to grieve

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in such wise, that subscribing on these conditions to his Excellence, they proclaimed him King of Hungary and Ægypt, swearing fealty unto him & delivering Hostages for their loyalty. This done the King with generall consent Crowned, & Commons began to conceive an especiall hope of his honourable love to them, whose kindness was such, that having the City and whole Kingdome at his pleasure, would not suffer his Soldiers to embeasell & purloine in any sort, but rather make choyce to reward the Mercenary men out of his own Treasury, which honourable beginning gained their especiall liking: When order was taken for the government of the State; Pheander who was mindfull of the Princesse Timoclea hasted the King on for Hungary, often putting him in mind what dangers the good Lady was likely to abide, if she consented not to the King, who was more cruell then courteous; wherefore taking their Pledges, hee left the noble Diphilus his Vicegerent, to take the Government upon him in his absence & with the next favourable wind they set Sayle for Hungary, where to their good successe we leave them to tell you more of Ottoman the Heathen Prince, who was in the Princesse Amoretta her custody.

CHAP. XXII.

How the Emperour of Constantinople was most grievously offended with his Sonne for his ill successe, and by perswasions of his Nobles sandeth his Ransome and other great Guifts to the Princesse Amoretta with the King of Hungary, and the powers of Tribisond arriving in Hungary; The freeing of the Princes from the Vsurper, and happie obtaining of his Kingdome.

The mighty Emperour of Constantinople, understanding the ill successe of his Sonne, with the great slaughter of his Men was moved at the first to such choller, that hee had determined for ever to abandon his Sonne, and never to have knowne or regarded him, but being perswaded by his Nobility which tenderly loved the Prince, hee was at length by their motions wonne to conceive, how unstable Fortunes chances are, and how Victories sometimes happen as well to the

the Coward as the valiant: not forgetting to urge unto him, how dishonourable it were for a Prince to leave the meanest Subject hee had at such an exigent, that should adventure his life in his service, much more was his Majesty bound by Natures lawes to relieve his Son, and not suffer him as one forsaken to remaine in the hands of his Enemies, upon which motion of his Bashawes, the Emperour caused two Galleys to be rigged & furnished, appointing two of his chiefest Nobles for that Voyage of Trebisond, as well to advertise him of his Sons welfare which he favoured, as also to agree upon ye sum of his Ransome: All things furnished for the Voyage, the Bashawes having taken leave of the Emperour, and the rest of their friends, favoured with a happy Gale they shortly arrived in Trebisond; of whose arrivall the King by his Messengers was advertised: Who being of nature most Honourable and courteous in behaviour, caused a sumptuous Traine of Courtiers with all the Honourable manner they could to receive them at their Port of landing, taking like order in all Lodgings and places of Repast, his Officers at his charge to attend them, wch in such exquisit manner was performed, as the Bashawes with their retinue admired their entertainment.

Thus by easie Journies they came to the Court, where the King with the Princesse gave them many welcomes, enquiring kindly after the good health of the Renowned Emperour their Master, whom he maligned no whit at all, how hardly soever hee had measured his Friendship with him. When the King and these Nobles had spent some time in discoursing, they enquired of the welfare of their Prince Ottomar, whom the King caused to be brought to their presence, before whom they bowed themselves in all humblenesse, as to the Sonne of their Soveraign, whom hee againe with all kindnesse embraced, passing the time with much pleasure, joying in the Welfare of his Friends: the King doing them all the Honour that could be devised, passing the time with such recreation, & gentle sports as the Countrey afforded: At length a Summe of money for the Princes Ransom was agreed upon to their content, for that it was reasonable, and the conditions honourable, which obtained their Victuals by the King was relieved,

and all necessaries at his charges prescribed in such maner, and with so much bounty, as they had great cause to report honourably of the King.

Long had they not tarried, but a Gale of wind favourable and pleasant presented itselfe, which good time they neglected not, but taking leave of the King, their Prince, and Princesse Amoreta, who accompanied them onwards to their Galleyes three whole dayes journeys, they leave them to ye care of their Journey: Who being imbarqued in short time arrived at Constantinople, where, how welcome they were to the Emperour and his Nobles, I omit, to let you understand of the honourable Reports of their entertainment in Trebisond, and the welfare of the Prince, whose company there were few but desired.

The strangenesse of this Report made of Castalinus, was exceeding admirable in the Emperours eares, who wondered not a little, that a King whom he had so much wronged should use such kindnesse to his Son, and courtesie to his Messengers, extolling highly the Honourable condition of the King, and much lamenting his owne follies, so rashly without any occasion offered, to injure him so farre as to spoyle his Countrey, and to rob him perforce of his only Child, his sole delight and comfort. To recompence all which, and to keepe his Friendship, he presently elected other Nobles for Trebisond to be imployed, which with the Princes Ransome, & many rich Presents to the King & his Daughter were dispatched, with Letters of Love and desire of Amity, all which comming to the Trebisondian King, were so heartily accepted as they could wish, and in presence of the Nobles, & states of both Realmes was the Peace concluded, and a Band of everlasting Friendship promised, to all their joyes.

Thus with great delight at the earnest intercession of the King, spent those Turkish Nobles some time in Trebisond, till their prefixed time began to draw towards an end; when receiving their Prince with great rewards, and many thankes for their pains they put to Sea, and were not long before they recovered their famous City of Constantinople, where they were most Royally welcommed, but especially the Prince, for-

whose

whole safety many Passimes were ordained, with Justings, Turneyes, Barriers, and other pleasing delights, wherein the Prince honourably bare himselfe, to the great joy of his Father, and pleasure to the whole State, who gloried greatly in him, which was likely to prove a most Honourable Prince, and their ensuing comfort. But while I digresse, let it bee considered that Loves Heroick Champion, who thirsted to see the end of his desires slept no time, but made all possible means he could (as wind and weather would give leave) untill hee arrived in Hungary, which he recovered in so good time as hee could wish, and taking that opportunity which was offered, he landed his Companies, and neare to the Sea-side encamped his power, untill hee might bee advertised of what power the King was, and where he remained; for the attaining of wch many espyals were sent out sundry wayes, and many Ambuscadoes laid to intercept such as travelled the Countrey: But their Landing being descryed, every one in all the hast they could make, hyed them to their Cities and places of defence, wher they with their store of provisi wch they brought they were received. The King securely passed his time taking care for nothing, and joying wholy in the hopes he conceived of his Ladies grant, being advertised of the arrivall of a Forrain power, overcome with sorrow at that instant, as one that never knew adversity, was surprized with such sodain heavinesse, as no words, no perswasions, nor any comfort might mitigate his sorrow, what paines soever his Nobles toke to pacifie him, his guilty conscience presaging some hard fortune to bee at hand: The Nobility which had more regard to his welfare, and his Countrey then hee could on the sodain imagine, after they had caused their Rampiers to be shut, and their Fortresses to be made (doubting the worst) desirous to be resolved what the Enemy was, that thus daringly durst bore him in their Countrey, they caused the Lord Cosro-Mecha, sometime of the chiefest in Hungary, a wise and well governed Gentleman to be sent unto them, to know whence they were and their intent, which against their wils, unacquainting them with their pretence had entred their Confines.

The Noble man to whose charge this was committed, though

he had small care of any matter, living dishonoured in his own Countrey, where in his Kings Raigne he was the only honoured, and amongst his Nobles in most account of him, had his wits sundry wayes imployed, and on others matters, yet amongst all imaginations the thought of his own Soveraign was least, the report of his death being so certaine, but whatsoever he could imagine was uncertaine, wherefore as desirous to be resolved of his doubts, as the King & Nobles to be thereof certified, onely accompanied with another of the disgraced Nobility, they hyed them towards the Camp, and was by the Ambuscadoes some surprized and brought to the Pavilion of the Generall, who saluting them with a kind countenance, demanded whence they were, & what occasions led them in such suspitious manner towards their Camp. The Nobles which had small care which end went forward, after they had well advised themselves, said; Sir, if we give not those Titles your honour deserves, pardon us which offend not of presumption therein, but of ignorance: That we come as Spyals to view thy Forces, and to discover them, therein you deceive your selfe, but come as Messengers from our King to know thy pretence, & what thou meanest landing thy Armies without his licence, which is contrary to the law of Armes: If thou come in Peace and not as an Enemy, resolve us this and thou honourest us.

The Prince taking their words at advantage, where they said they came to their King, with a counterfeit shew of great dislike, said; Traytors how dare you to my face use those colours of simplicity, when you averre you come from your King, which I know is altogether untrue: Wherefore that you shall warne & rest how they delude me, you shall have the reward of Traytors, and calling for the Provost Marshall, commanded him to cut off their heads.

The Nobles thinking he had been past jest seeing their Executioner so ready, humbly besought him to credit what they had said, which was true, & pardon their Lives, for that Law of Armes protecteth the Messenger of the Prince from whom they come, therefore it would redound to his great dishonour to violate the Hostility of all Princes. While they were thus at

at their thrift, it chanced Marmaricus their lawfull King to enter the Pavilion of his generall, whose presence much apalled the Hungarian Nobles, who standing as men past themselves, had no thought but in beholding him, which so much resembled their supposed dead King; the long noting of whom caused them to renew their sorrowes, and with remembrance of the times they had past to shed teares: The King imagining what they thought, knowing them well, put them from their ruinous thoughts thus.

Men of Hungary, what meaneth your heavinesse? Thinke you hereby to delude this Noble Gentleman, or by your feignings to procure your favour, if either one or other of these causes, you deceive your selves, and incur you more trouble: Wherefore to avoyde the perils imminent unto you, if you be right Hungarians, and tender the welfare of your Princesse, in whose rescue we come, briefly declare unto us in what State she abideth, and where the usurping King hath his residence? Cosro-Mecha hearing that pleasing tongue, wherewith he was acquainted assured himselfe that it was their King, and without further stay, humbly kissing his Majesties feet, his face bedewed with teares, and his tongue faltering in his mouth, as one with sodain joy overcome, he saith.

My Gracious Soveraign, how glad am I, that I enjoy breath to behold your Majesty alive, whom all the world reputeth for dead; the heavy Tydings of which, with your ill successe, moved the hearts of your loving Subjects to such extreame heavinesse, as nothing might comfort, that past comfort, and all hope of beholding your Princely face, we reckoned you amongst the dead. In the extreame of this sorrow, as all evils commonly fall in one, when every heart and eye was deploring the losse of so Gracious a Prince, then began our further griefs through the oppressions of this usurping Tyrant, whose cruelty hath been such as grieveth me to recount. Thy Sister he detaineth in prison, from whence he hath vowed she shall never be freed, untill with content she take him for her King, or by gain-saying his demands, receive that death which he hath vowed her unto, whose wrongs we poore men, how nilely soever we pitty, yet can we remedy nothing, our ability being

little, and our reputation lesse amongst these cruell Ægyptians, who hath robbed us of what we possest, not suffering us to enjoy our ancient Patrimony, nor what they might any way despoyle us of: The revenge of which, we hope in thee and thy power, who wilt maintaine and defend thy own lawfull right, rather offering thy selfe amongst us that honour and love thee as our lives, then leave us any more. To the accomplishing of which, my selfe, with all thy owne Countrey-borne Subiects that wee can procure unto us, will lend what aid our weake force will stretch unto, and thereof assure your Majesty.

The King hearing the lamentable report of the Lord Cosro-Mecha, could not forbeare to shew the heavinesse of his hearts sorrow by his outward motions yet to hide it as he might, imbracing them both, he framed a feyned joy to see them, howsoever his heart was overburthened with griefe. When they had passed some time in parley about their affaires; and that some offers were made by these Nobles of their aid and assistance, a generall Councell was called, where, by consent of such as had government, understanding the power of Mimaleon the Usurper, was no more but such as guarded his Holds, it was determined after the Army had refreshed themselves two or three dayes, to march forward to the City, there to leaguer the King, and to cut off from them all supply of provision for victuals, whereof they had small store.

In the meane time the Lords of Hungary to give notice to all their friends (with all speed) as they tendered their owne Liberties to repaire with such power as they could make unto the Campe. This devise was no sooner determined on, but the noble Cosro-Mecha, without returning to the King, spared not his paines and all others which he could command or intreat; proclaiming in every place as they passed, Marmoricus their lawfull King straightly charging all naturall Subiects of Hungary to make repaire unto the Camp. These tydings at first were hardly beleeved, yet such was the rumour of a forraign power landed, that all which could beare Armes repaired to the King, whom they found at the assault of the City where the Usurper kept such was the multitudes of people

ple, which from all Countries in his Dominions came unto him, that in short time he had power sufficient to overrunne a Kingdome. The Usurper Maneleon who had least thought ever to heare of, or see the Hungarian King, when report of his being in the Campe, was brought unto him, his courage quailed, and his hope of enjoying the Crowne was quite extinguished, so that despairing he became like a man lunaticke, that nothing (whatsoever) might move him to any mirth or content, so that giving over all, he cared not what became of himselfe or his, yet was he carefully councelled by his Nobles, who regarded both his Honour and their safety: But whatsoever they might councell or determine, was ill imployed, at his hands was nothing to be had, wherefore after they saw his small care, and that he was not to be advised, they determined either in field with unappointed Battell to try their Fortunes, or by some such composition as might be for their Countries safety and their reputation, to give over their title pretended to the Crowne of Hungary. Before that any things was resolved, Loves Heroick Champion, which had his mind on his Lady as well as of other affaires, could not rest in content untill he had finished, and either gained what they came for, or tane the event of Fortune. Wherefore to avoyd further delayes, he summoned the City to parley, wherein he required their answer, whether they would receive their lawfull King or no, if yea, they should suffer him in peace to enter, or otherwise upon their answer to abide the hazard incident to Armes, which he protested should be voyd of all favour if he prevailed, and they refused this offer of his.

These Summons caused the Nobility to looke with better advice into their Estates, and with consideration to weigh each particuler perill, which they found to be very many and dangerous, especially seeing the Multitude who were naturall Subjects, and did rather affect their owne King (howsoever they professed in outward appearance) then the Usurper, which made them the more earnest with their King, unto whom they declared the offers made by Loves Heroick Champion, with the doubts they had of his successe, who were nothing in number to the Kings power, which daily increased, and contrary his

decreased:

decreased: Wherefore they advised him to yield unto such Articles of Honour as they would require, wch should be both for his honour, and safety of him and his.

The Usurper hearing these persuasions from them, whereon his chiefest hope consisted, forgetting all former friendship and love to any of them, with most odious words reviled them, calling them Traytors, Dastards, and upbraiding them with Cowardize; which were never found but ever far wide in all their Actions, only this excepted, wherein was no hope. These speaches moved his Nobles to such fury, that departing from him in discontent, they resolved for their owne safety to seeke what meanes they could, and not by delayes to incur his displeasure, whose friendship they were by all meanes they could use to intreat. Wherefore in name of all the rest, the Lord Parinthus principall Treasurer unto the King, by whose directions the rest would be governed, sent for the Princesse Timoclea from prison, whom he used with honourable Speaches, comforting her with hope of her Kingly Brother, who lived, and was in person come with a strong power, to deliver her from that Captivity which so long she endured, humbly beseeching her Grace to become a favourable Solliciter to his Highnesse for them, who were to be commanded by their Soveraign, whose Subjects they were protesting that neither for envy to him or his they undertook the action, but at a commandement, and to avoyd the ignominious Title of Cowardize, which all of Honourable birth and mind ought to detest. The good Princesse which could not tell, whether she might give credit to his words or no, answered him thus.

My Lord Parinthus, under the greenest grasse lurketh the most perilous poyson, experience hath taught me (in my durance) the knowledge of friends, these sodaine offers of Love to my Brother; whom you all know is long sithence dead, causeth me the more to dread I am going to him, and that your offered friendship is but to that end to bereave me of that which long since I wished to leave: If it be so good my Lord, hide not the truth thereof from me, for therein shall you shew your charitable mind to a distressed Captive.

Farre be it from my thought Noble Lady, quoth Parinthus, that

that I should any way delude you, or move you to credit any thing other then truth, whom I hold my greatest hope of good, to assure you of which, so it pleaseth your Excellence, I will, my selfe bring you to his Majesties presence, which when Princesse heard him make these proffers of favours, and perceived by his gesture he did not counterfeit, overcome with joy she was in a trance, from which revived by the carefull industry of the Lady Boldrace, Wife to the Lord Parinthus, she gave the Noble man great thankes for his tydings, assuring him on her word, that she would so recompence that good, as he nor his should have any cause to complain of her ungratefulnesse. Urging him with her courteous speech to detract no time, but to bring her to the Camp where the King was, which he willingly yielded unto, and caused a Stately Charriot to be ordained, and richly apparelling the Princesse as befitteth her, accompanied with his Lady and two Daughters of rare beauty, himselfe waying on her disrobed issued out of the Gates, and in short time came neare the Camp, where by the Sentinels discovered, and brought to the Kings presence, who seeing the Princesse, whom he had great doubt the Tyrant would have murthered, so sodain a joy surprized him as he might not speake; yet overcomming his passion, joyning his face with hers, after many kind embracings, he saith; Timoclea, how have the Heavens blessed me, in giving me life to behold thee, more deare unto me, then a million of lives, whom hitherto I possesse, as the only joy I conceived hope of in this World, I account my happinesse more then to be possessed of the worlds revenew: But tell me Timoclea, what are these that accompany thee? Strangers to me they are, how friendly soever they have used thee.

Most Gracious Soveraigne, for these Noble persons I am to intreat; having passed my word to have their safe conduct from any violence should be offered them, therefore good my Lord, receive into your favour the Lord Parinthus, Treasurer to the Usurper, his Lady and Daughters, such as are by them protected, so shalt thou honour me the more by maintaining my word, which relying on your Princely Nature, I have past. Loves Heroick Champion willing to hold her Honour in

regard, said; Madam, how his Majesty on the sodain may bee won to favour your suit, I cannot say, having had such great cause to revenge him on their cruelty, but for his Life let him thanke your Grace, if he enjoy it. The King, whose heart pitty moved to tender ye suit of the Princesse, comming towards the Noble Parinthus and his Lady, with great courtesie, tooke them from the earth whereon they kneeled, accepting them to his Majesty, using them with such honour and courtesie, that they admired him. After he had reviewed with his kind confertions these sorrowing Sutors, he said; Parinthus, as I have pardoned thy life, so faile not to tell me thy Kings determination, whether he will yield, or in Battell try the event of our Fortunes.

CHAP. XXIII.

How the Lord *Parinthus* describeth unto the King the whole Estate, and determination of the Usurper, who flying from the Forces of the puissant Army, is by *Loves Herolck Champion* pursued and taken, whom hee sendeth for a present to the Princesse *Amoretta* to *Trebisond*.

GRacious Soveraigne, quoth Parinthus, that he determines to seek your Grace is more then I can say, for such desperate humours assaileth him, that he is not himselfe, and Friends faileth him from the Noble to the Peasant, whose wisdoms have with grave advice considered what wrongs have been offered your Grace, & hath upon your Princely Motions of mercy, solicited him to pitty them and yield unto your Grace, which when hee could not be perswaded unto, we all left him; and I in name of all the Nobility beseech your Highnesse of mercy, who only attendeth but my return, at such time on your gracious word, they will deliver the City.

My Lord quoth the King, what cause soever I have in the most extreamest manner to revenge me on you all yea to the very Child that sucketh, that I omit: And that thou and they all shall know I delight not in blood, nor wish I the Life of my mortall

mortall Foe, returne unto them, and from me say; that if in submissive wise they issue their Gates, and at my Feet crave mercy, bring with them their usurping King, I will accept them, so thou & they shall sweare your dutifull allegeance to me and mine, they shall be hereafter maintained in such manner as becommeth faithfull Subjects to their Prince. I will admit them to my Grace, and will be unto them a loving and Gracious Soveraigne. Parinthus, which had that he most desired, uttering with many deepe sighes the joy his heart conceived for his good successe, after many humble and hearty prayers for the Kings life in all happinesse, to be maintained, he besought his Grace to give him leave with his happy Tydings, to make glad the hearts of those sorrowfull Nobles which expected his returne; which the King granted, detaining his Wife and Daughters to attend his Sister, whose joyes exceeded the extreames of her misery, enjoying her Noble Brother which she was out of all hope ever to behold againe. To their recreation we leave them, and passe on with the Lord Parinthus; who made no stay untill he came to the Gates, where divers of his friends expected his comming; No sooner entred he the City, but summoning the Nobles and Governours all together, he delivered unto them what favour he had received of the King, and how willing he was to shew like clemency unto them all, upon these conditions specified, whereunto he perswaded them to yield, not omitting any thing to make them mindfull of the little hope they had of the Usurpers successe; for which they had no reason to incline unto him, who had so small regard of them, but rather let him endure the reward of his owne follies, then that so many should perish for one mans wrongs. Resolved thus, they hastened unto the Court, at whose sodain entring the King was greatly apalled, considering in what discontent they parted with him, yet shewing a countenance voyd of all feare he required the cause of their comming, whom they soone resolved, letting him know each particuler of their intent, perswading him to patience, for what they had determined should be accomplished.

The King hearing his own doome of misery pronounced, albeit it moved him to great impatience, yet restraining choller,

ler, with his smooth speech he besought them of respite for his answer till the next morning, which they willingly consented unto: And so leaving him they departed each one to his severall mantion. But he in whose heart revenge harboured, having his mind wholy bent on their ruine, after he had conferred with such as were as full of mischief, as himselfe of cruelty, and was by them advertised what power they were of, he caused them secretly in ꝑ night Armed to assemble at ꝑ Court, where in very covert manner they remained, untill the time came that the Nobles should come to receive their answer, who voyd of all suspect of evill entred the Pallace, desirous to know his pleasure touching the matter then betweene them in question. No sooner came they to the Kings ꝑsence, but the cruell Tyrant shewing in his countenance ꝑ pretence of his heart, began in tearmes of great reproach to exclaime against the Nobles, whom he accused of Treason and unjust dealing against him and the State of his Countrey, that flying from him which was their lawfull Soveraigne, sought to supplant him to Crowne another: But Traytors quoth he, you shall reap such rewards as your treachery deserveth, and therewithall giving the Watch-word, his Confederates which for the purpose was Ambushed, issued upon them, and sodainly surprized as many as they could come by, the rest that fled, entring the City, proclaimed the lawfull King, offering in his name free pardon of life and goods to as many as followed them. At which offer of grace, the Commons wearied with oppression of the Usurper, in multitudes assembled themselves, and guyded by Parinchus, they fiercely assailed the King in his Court, killing as many as they could reach unto, and rescue their fellow Nobles, whose deaths by the Tyrant was determined, had not the Valour and policy of this Noble Parinchus ꝑvailed.

In this exploit many of the company of the Usurper were slaine, himselfe with such as escaped betook them to the Mountaines, where they encamped themselves, expecting aid of those he had preferred: But they more regarding their own weale then his honour; and seeing no comfort or hope of recovery, submitted themselves unto the Kings mercy, and were of him received. This Canvesado passed, the Commons with gene-

rall

rall voyce elected Marmaricus for their King. Parinthus ponted him with all speed to the Camp; and to the King declared the treacherous pretence of the Usurper; with the event of all his and their Actions, and in the name of the whole State beſought him to receive the Crowne, and the faithfull love of all the Commons. Marmaricus hearing the miſchievous pretence of this Usurper, pitying his Subjects that had ſo long beene governed by a Prince ſo ill conditioned, at the earneſt intercellion of the Noble Parinthus, guarded with a Troupe of his truſtieſt men at Armes, marched to the City, at the entry of which the whole Nobility, bare-legged and bare-headed received him; and to his Highneſſe delivered the keyes of their Ports, with preſence of rich price, marching before him to the Pallace, crying with a generall voyce, Marmaricus, Marmaricus. The King noting his Subjects Loves, with hearty thankes requited them all, exhorting them to Obedience and Loyalty, wch if they faithfully followed, he would be a merciſull Prince unto them. Marmaricus in poſſeſſiō of his Crown, willing his Friends ſhould participate with him, diſpatched a Meſſenger for Loves Heroick Champion, the Princeſſe and her Attendants, who all as their duty obediently fulfilled his commandement, Loves Heroick Champion excepted; who careſull of his charge, and looking into the practiſes and deviſes of the Uſurper, beſought his Grace to pardon his not comming to the Court for a time untill he had ſeen the event of his affairs, and ſending for ſuch guides as he was informed to be well acquainted in thoſe Deſarts, he put himſelfe in ſearch for the Uſurper and his ſcattered Crew, whom in ſhort time he found, to the number of one thouſand, on horſe and foot, which he no ſooner eſpyed, but cheering his Companies which were not above forty, not minding to give them dayes, he bravely aſſailed them, & ſo valiantly behaved himſelfe in that conflict, that after five whole houres ſpent in hardy Feates of Chivalry, there was ſcarce ten of the Companies living: The King he ſurpriſed as he was flying, with whom he returned to the City, and to the King Marmaricus delivered him, who kindly accepting his preſent, returned the Knight many thankes for his paines.

This haunt past, and all things by the Valour and Industry of Loves Heroick Champion brought to quiet end, the King unwilling to detaine his Subjects from their owne homes, recompenced every man for his good service, and dislodged the Camp. A World of wonder it were to recount, what generall Joy was throughout the Land for returne of their King and his good successe, for which great Tryumphs were ordained with Justs, Barriers and Tilt, wherein the Nobles of the Countrey in great bravery behaved themselves, but the best and chiefest Honour in each severall Action was given Loves Heroick Champion, who like himselfe so behaved himselfe, as there was no talke throughout the Court and Countrey, but tended to the generall commendations of this noble Prince.

Thus all things hath'ving entred their Tryumphs and the King in peace enjoyed his Kingdom, which through the Trebisondian Kings assistance, and the Valour of this Honoured Knight he obtained. All things quieted, Loves Heroick Champion, after he had a small time reposed himselfe from his travels, humbly besought his Highnesse to suffer him with his Companies to depart, which favour hee could not by any intreaty obtaine: Wherefore to satisfie the King, with his own longer stay, he dismissed his Army, whom the King so royally rewarded, as no man had cause to complain of his time spent, but every one to speake of his honour and bounty. The conduct of whom, after he had with great care provided them with Victuals, and all things necessary, he committed to Pomarius a Noble man of Trebisond, by whom the Knight advised the King of his stay, which was chiefly for the Lord Diphilus, whom they left Viceroy in Ægypt, recommending also his service unto the Lady Amoretta, her presented by this Noble Pomarius the Usurper unto her as Prisoner, & his Conquest. Thus all things carefully provided the Wind blowing a favourable Gale they embarqued themselves, & sailing as they could wish, they shortly arrived in safety at their desired Port, where their welcom was such of their King as they might joy to receive it, where friend with friend joyed for their returne: Onely the Princesse endured the greatest penance, missing the returne of her Knight, who could not be perswaded of his

welfare

welfare wanting his presence, yet accepted thee the Usurper his Prisoner, and through the great protestations of the Lord Pomarius, had hope to see him againe, whose heart enjoyed small content wanting his company.

Chap XXIV.

How old *Machaon* sometime Tutor to the Prince *Armatius*, now *Loves Heroick Champion*, had answer from the Oracle at *Delphos* how the Prince lived, and what joy he conceived thereof, and still continued his search for him.

NOw Gentlemen, here wee leave the Noble Phenander in company of the Hungarian King, spending his time in small content, wanting the sight of his desired Lady, and his Lady with teares bewailing him, whom shee more desired then the worlds possession, to shew what hapned the ancient Machaon, who as you have heard before left ye Carmanian Court, with all his possession. Pilgrim-like journeying towards Delphos, there of the Oracle to be advertised of his King, & the Princes life or death: And comming to the sacred Chappell of Apollo, after his Orizons done, and his offerings made before the shrine of Apollo, the pitifull God moved at his Intercession, and considering the faithfull Love to his Prince & Countrey, wch is pleasing both to Gods and men, after hee had with teares bewayled his Prince, was thus answered.

Machaon, thy faithfull Love to Prince and Countrey wee have regarded, and moved with pitty of thee & thy Commonwealth, whose Subjects distressed, desire to have knowledge of their King and his Princely Sonne, with what shall befall them receive these Lines, which shall impart the event of all; yet for a time conceale them, and continue thy Travell.

Machaon, whose heart was lightened with this comfortable hope, looking about him, espyed a paper, which taking up he read in this manner.

Ambitions shall your Land with Warres annoy,
Taking by force what Subject doth enjoy.

A for-

A forraine power theſe Rebels pride ſhall quell,
Through whom your Commons ſhall in quiet dwell.
Before his face, whom they ſuppoſe for dead,
The Traytors ſhall for life, with pitty plead.
A ſtranger Queene on Kingly Seate ſhall ſit,
Unto whoſe rule your Commons ſhall ſubmit.
Religious, ſeeing your Countries happy ſtate,
Overcome with joy ſhall dye at Princes gate,
He unto whom your Crowne belongs aright,
Js all in one, a Marchant, King, and Knight.
Suppoſed loſt, thou once againe ſhall meete
Jn forraine ſoyle, ſitting on Princely Seate.
When in thy Travell ſuch one thou ſhalt ſee,
As ſuch there is, which ſhall be found by thee.
Returne thou then, elſe dread thy guiltleſſe blood,
Whoſe life preſerv'd is for thy Countries good.

When the aged Pilgrim had peruſed theſe Lines, muſing at the darkneſſe of the ſame, which he conſtrued many wayes yet had no certainty, wherefore reſolving on the mercifull favour of the Gods, which had ſo pittifully heard his prayer, he paſſed on his journey in ſearch of thoſe Princes, which he hoped were living, whom to his Travell wee leave, to returne unto the Princeſſe Timoclea, who having the company of Loves Heroick Champion, had ſundry motions of deſire to enjoy his love, evermore applauding his perſon, courteſie, and valour, which ſo farre exceeded all mens in her Judgement, that ſhe honoured him for the only Paragon of the World, holding her for the moſt happieſt Lady on the Earth, which ſhould enjoy his Love, wiſhing that ſhe were worthy of his Love, and framing her ſelfe by all meanes that modeſty would permit to gaine it. But hee whoſe heart was fixed on his Lady had no motion of any other, only wiſhed to be with her whom he ſo much honoured, whoſe preſence he more deſired then all the riches in the World could afford. Tormented with theſe reſtleſſe paſſions, which was of the King & Courtiers noted, eſpecially of the Lady Timoclea many imagined the cauſe, yet none ſo good a Phyſician to find the truth or cauſe thereof; as continuall

care

care weakneth the body,and causeth many extreames,so Pheander feeling the weaknesse of Nature, and loking for some disease through his Melancholy to ensue, finding the King at convenient time,he humbly besought him of favour to depart, alleadging that the Ayre, and contagiousnesse of those Confines was nothing agreeing with his body, and that his longer stay might be by his confusion.

The King which loved him as his own soule, and tendering his welfare more then all the Wealth of his Kingdome,whom he had found so kind and forward, adventuring his Life for his good in many broyles, though loth to leave him in whom so much he delighted, yet noting his Melancholike humours wch had much altered his complexion, imagined it was no excuse, and therefore the rather condescended to his request, appoynting a time as he desired (if GOD sent wind and weather) to be ready with their shipping to conduct him to Ægypt,whether the King promised with his Sister and Nobles to accompany him,for which journey a strict command was given to all Officers to see each thing necessary provided, which with such diligence was performed, as in short time all things was as they could wish or desire furnished,only attending a faire wind to set saile, which they stayed not long for: But a Gale fitting their purpose, the King with his Sister. Loves Heroick Champion and their Traine,embarqued themselves for Ægypt, where by the good furtherance of him that commandeth all they shortly arrived in safety,whose comming being knowne unto the Viceroy Diphilus,with such provision as they could make on the sodaine repaired unto the place of Landing, where the King joyfull to see the good recovery of Diphilus, in most kind manner imbraced him: And so generall welcomes being given on all sides by the Nobles,they passe on towards the Pallace of the King, who with a zealous love of his Commons, was to his great delight welcommed,with such shewes of joy as on the sodain they could prepare.

Thus after some time spent in banquetting and other pastimes for their welcomes. to beguile the time ỳ better, Loves Heroick Champion standing on thornes, untill hee might behold the sweet content of his Lives comfort, finding Diphi-

lus in a place where they might diſcuſſe at large their minds. The Knight not forgetting his promiſe made to Diphilus in his owne Countrey, & willing to make amends for the wrong he had there, thus ſaid; My Lord, what I have to impart unto you as one that wiſheth your good, is ſuch as becommeth a friend, bowed to do your Lordſhip what ſervice my ability can ſtretch unto, only I beſeech you, promiſe on your Honour to conceale what I ſhall diſcover.

Diphilus, who both honoured and loved the Knight, muſing to what theſe Speeches tended, relying on the fidelity of him, whom he never had heard or ſeene to commit any diſhonourable Action, gave him his word and honour, to bee as ſecret in all things as he could deſire, which the Knight accepting thus ſaid: My Lord, firſt I humbly beſeech your favourable love to be continued, and pardon my great offence committed againſt you in Carmania, where (my fellie not my ſelfe) I committed a moſt haineus and diſhonourable fault, for which I am willing to make ſuch ſatisfaction as you can require.

Diphilus hearing the Knight uſe theſe ſpeeches of ſubmiſſion, noting them well, and bethinking himſelfe what had fortuned being in Carmania, could not call to mind any unkindneſſe offered him by any inferiour perſon, neither did hee well remember the Princes diſcourteſie, yet leaving nothing unſought, calling his wits together bethought him of the Prince, whom he forbare to anſwer, untill hee had with earneſtneſſe noted the Phyſiognomy of the Knight, whoſe face with long ſickneſſe where with he was at that time poſſeſt, was quite altered from the forme it now had, which made him more to admire: But calling to mind the reſemblance of the aged King, he conceived by ſome ſignes of his favour that it was Diphilus, the Prince yet doubtfull he was, for that being ſo borne, he came to the Trebiſondian Court with no better countenance then a Marchant.

After many thoughts not willing to offend through Raſhneſſe, or to offer any hindneſſe, hee humbly beſought him in true friendſhip which he had found to pardon him, which could not call to mind any wrong done him, nor any familiarity that ever had been betweene them.

Well

Well my Lord (quoth the Knight) I ſee your mind is free from revenge, that know not thoſe that have endangered your life, and therefore am the more deſirous to reveale my ſelf to cleare you of this doubt. Know that I am Armatius that unhappy Prince of Carmania, who in my Fathers Court ſo much abuſed you, whereof I repent me and have ſorrowed for it; but pardon me good Diphilus, & accept that friendſhip I vowed unto you, which will endeavour to deſerve thy Love in all occaſions wherein true Love conſiſteth: To give you ſome cauſe to credit what I ſay, I have thought good to find this opportunity, not only to reveale my ſelfe to you whoſe favour I deſire, but to my beſt endeavour deſerve the ſame, and to advance thy Eſtate, if ſo you can like of my offer.

Diphilus amazed at theſe ſpeeches, after he had with more adviſed eyes beheld the Prince, was aſſured it was he, proſtrating himſelfe on his knee, humbly beſought his Grace of pardon which had ſo unreverently behaved himſelfe; but gracious Prince (qd. he) faults unwillingly committed deſerve the leaſt puniſhment, I ſpeake for my ſelfe, wch am ready to make amends in performing any pennance it ſhall pleaſe your Highneſſe to enjoyne me, yielding many millions of thankes for that favour you have vouchſafed, in giving me that credit to reveale your ſelfe, to the unworthieſt of many in high eſteem which deſireth your Highneſſe knowledge, vowing by the honour of my Noble Anceſtry to be governed and directed by the Prince Armatius, and ſhall ſo it pleaſe your Highneſſe follow your Grace whereſoever it ſhall ſtand with your good pleaſure to conduct me. The Prince interrupting his Speech lovingly imbraced the Lord Diphilus, giving him many thanks for his kind offers, which he was aſſured was faithfully ſpoken: In recompence of which, my Lord (qd. he) and to make you ſome ſatisfaction for my former wrong offered you; I will endeavour to advance your Eſtate, ſo it ſtand with your good liking in this manner.

You ſee (my Lord) though with ſome trouble and effuſion of blood on either part, the King in peace enjoyeth his owne Countrey, and with the Crown of his Enemy is likewiſe inveſted. All luring baytes are Kingdoms, and have cauſed ma-

ny Nobles who not content with their own Estates, to hazard Honour, Life, and whatsoever else they enjoyed, to attain unto them: But my Diphilus, if thou canst frame thy liking to my wish, and bend thy mind to the love of Timoclea the Princesse, my endeavour shall be to obtaine her for thy Lady, and the Kingdome of Ægypt for her dowry, besides she is Heire to her Brother, who dying without Issue shall to higher Honours preferre thee. This is all my Noble Diphilus, that I have to say, and so much I say, for that I wish thy advancement, if thou like the Lady, and have not bestowed thy liking elsewhere. Say thy mind as unto him which not only in this, but in all other matters wherein I may do thee good, commend me as thy selfe.

Diphilus, who was wise and well demeaned, endued with valour and courtesie as much as might be required, humbly returned many thankes for this unexpected good, moved with a desire of Kingly Dignity, well content to enjoy so brave a Princesse for his Love, without further stay, said; My honoured Lord, I cannot frame my tongue to yield such thanks as my heart would utter, only this good I crave, that your Highnesse continue your gracious favour towards me, whose will shall be ever a law to Diphilus, who will ever be directed by your Majesties advice: And seeing most honourable Prince, you have motion of willingnesse to doe me this good, I humbly beseech you continue it, and bind Diphilus in everlasting bands of true friendship to your Service.

Here were they interrupted by the comming of the King, who hearing that the Prince was gone that way, delighting in his company more then in any others, came sodainly on them, yet not in such manner but he was espyed of them. The King which saw them so earnest in their speech, comming up to them said; Sir Knight, were my Lord Diphilus a Lady as he is an honourable Gentleman, I should bee very suspitious of you both, that you would find time to stretch a point further then became you. In faith Gentlemen (qd. he) as there is brotherly Love betweene you, which the world well noteth, let there be a Trinity, & accept me for the third person so shall you honour me more then I will say, and endue me with such hap-

happineſſe as I will not for avoyding of flattery. Your Majeſty quoth the Prince, may jeſt, but would it were knowne unto your Grace, our Loves to your Highneſſe, you might then ſay you have ſuch poore friends of us, as will ever be ready to venture our lives in your honourable ſervice.

Experience good Knight (anſwered the King) long ſithence hath taught me that, whoſe eyes are witneſſes of your Loyalty, which I will endeavour to requite, as when you pleaſe to make tryall you ſhall find; eſpecially you my Lord, whoſe blood loſt in adventuring for me I can no way requite. Seeing quoth the Prince, your Highneſſe is thus diſpoſed to jeſt, pardon I beſeech you what I have to ſay, and favour me ſo much as to heare my humble ſute (and hearing) let me obtaine it at your gracious hands, in granting which, your Grace ſhall honour me then I dare report. Honourable Knight anſwered the King, among friends what ſhould need diſtruſt, my heart grieveth that the Noble Knight Pheander, ſhould doubt to obtaine what ever reſteth in my power to grant: wherefore ſweet friend ſay on, for by the honour of the Hungarian Kingdome, whoſe Crowne I enjoy through thy good Induſtry, what ever thou requireſt ſhall not be denyed. Thankes gracious Lord, not for my ſelfe I intreat, but for this Gentleman, whoſe heart having ſworne fealty to Love, which is the Soveraigne guide of all men, hath framed his liking unto the Princeſſe Timoclea whoſe Servant he hath vowed himſelfe; if then Noble Prince it ſhall ſtand with your Highneſſe good pleaſure to accept of him, whoſe honourable birth & haughty deeds of Chivalry may merit ſome eſteeme with perſons of worth, I have my deſire (by granting of which) and obtaining the Princeſſe good liking, I ſhall be more honoured, then if your Grace had indowed me with both the Kingdomes of Hungary & Ægypt.

Pheander, ſo the King, if thou hadſt required as much for thy ſelfe as thy friend, thou couldſt not have honoured mee more, whoſe amity I deſire to participate with, above all men of what account ſoever: but ſeeing thy requeſt is for him whoſe advancement I deſire, and for that thou ſhalt know in what regard I hold thy Love, I will do my beſt to procure her love, women have fancies, & are head-ſtrong in their affects, whe-

ther she have granted her love I know not neither can I force her liking if I could it were not convenient; for a forced beast is frowarde, and women wedded to their will (if in their Love they should be contracted) were better lost then found, their revenging minds are such, as they will not be quiet, untill for their Husbands safety they have armed his head with such proofe, that he may walke in safety amongst the best headed stags in my Forrest. But leaving this jest (Pheander) that thou maist assure thee of my Love, my industry shall be to gain her for thy friend, whom I both honour and love, and for you my Lord, I give hearty thankes that will accept of her, whom (I may say) I love as a Brother, who if I can perswade to your wish, her large Dowry shall testifie. Our pleasant parley hath procured me a good Appetite, my stomacke telleth me, it is dinner time, wherefore Gentlemen, leaving this talke, which is as much conquest as the greatest of Hercules, which dio never conquer woman (unto me) let us walk, and doubt not but I will play the Orator in such wise as shall procure your content Lord Diphilus, and satisfie your request. Thanks gracious Prince qd. Diphilus, I satisfie your request. Thanks gracious Prince quoth Diphilus, wch is all I have to requite so great a benefit, only your true Liegeman shall I ever continue, and be ready at your pleasure to doe you service.

Chap. XXV.

How the *Trebisond* King dyed, leaving the Kingdome to the Princesse *Amoretta*, the King of *Hungaria* wooeth his Sister the Princesse *Timoclea* for *Diphilus*.

Gentlemen here the story telleth us, that the Trebisond King (as flesh is mortall) perced with an extreame sickenesse, was so oppressed therewith, that that nature failing through weake age, all Physicke helpes were fruitlesse. So that perforce he must pay his due to death which commandeth all, whose breath failing at the summon of this Tyrant, which may not be intreated, his soule departed this earthly trunke, to see the joyes of the everlasting Kingdome, whose death his Subjects so with pitious plaints

plaints bewailed, as might have changed the most hardest heart in a Chaos of lamenting sorrowes, beholding their teares, whose body was most royally intombed amongst his Ancestry. But among those which sorrow overwhelmed, and had like to have drowned in deaths gulph, ỹ Princesse whom nature forced in some sort to lament, as a child having lost her father, was so weakned with her plaints and hearts sorrow, that long time it was not to be thought she could recover it, so much was her tender heart touched, oftentimes bewailing her Fathers death, and then againe grieving for the want of her Love and Lord the Heroick Champion, of whose safety whom she more desired then to be Lady of the whole Earth, could not be perswaded. Long did she languish in these extreames and could not be comforted, insomuch that she rather desired then to live. But he that in extreams is our best comfort, preserving her for the Commons benefit, sent her health, who being recovered, the Coronation finished, and the Crown by common consent of the Parliament confirmed unto her, many offers of Marriages were made unto her, for which humble suites of her Councell were not omitted, who desired nothing more, then to have the Issue of her Noble body succeed her. But no perswasions might move her from the knight, who had the chiefe interest of her heart, to whom she had vowed her selfe, protesting likewise, never to grant her love or liking to any one but only to him. This resolution so much grieved her Nobles, that nothing could breed no discontent, yet as duty commanded, framed themselves to her Government, who with such wisdome directed all things for the benefit of her Common-weale, that it was admirable to behold that wisdom in one of her sexe.

But to returne to our matter. The Hungarian King, who minding his honourable words with the Noble Pheander, finding opportunity, gan question on his Sister in this manner.

Timoclea. Since the decease of our deare Parents, thou hast beene left unto my Government, for whom (without boast) or desire of benefit of thee or any, I have had that care as of mine owne owne good, and ever will, so thou be ruled by me. And for that I see thy yeares requireth to be linked in Marriage,

that

ther she have granted her love I know not neither can I force her liking if I could it were not convenient: for a forced beast is froward, and women wedded to their will (if in their Love they should be contraried) were better lost then found. Their revenging minds are such, as they will not be quiet, until for their Husbands safety they have armed his head with such pride, that he may walke in safety amongst the best headed stags in my Forrest. But leaving this jest (Pheander) that thou must allure thee of my Love, my industry shall be to gain her for thy friend, whom I both honour and love, and for you my Lord, I give hearty thankes that will accept of her, whom (I may say) I love as a Brother, who if I can perswade to your will, her large Dowry shall testifie. Our pleasant parley hath procured me a good Appetite, my stomacke telleth me, it is dinner time, wherefore Gentlemen, leaving this talke, which is as much conquest as the greatest of Hercules, which did never conquer woman (unto me) let us walk, and doubt not but I will play the Orator in such wise as shall procure your content Lord Diphilus, and satisfie your request. Thanks gracious Prince qd. Diphilus, I satisfie your request. Thanks gracious Prince quoth Diphilus, such is all I have to requite so great a benefit, only your true Liegeman shall I ever continue, and be ready at your pleasure to doe you service.

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that.

that thou maiſt participate in love with thy Husband, & ſpend the prime of thy yeares as is fitting thy eſtate, I have found a Gentleman of honour and valour, ſuch a one, as on my word loveth thee, and I have cauſe for his paines in my ſervice imployed to honour. Therefore good ſiſter, if thou love me as a Brother & hast not beſtowed thy love elſewhere, in this matter be ruled by me, and in doing whereof, thou ſhalt find me thy Brother and moſt aſſured friend, who will ever be as carefull of thy well doing and honour, as of mine own good. Say therefore thy mind plainly, and let me know whether thou doeſt love, or canſt love?

The Lady, whoſe wiſdome was ſuch as ballanced her honour, not knowing whether her Brother were in jeaſt or earneſt thus modeſtly ſaid: Gracious Lord and my dread Soveraigne, pardon I humbly beſeech you, your Subject, and ſuffer me not through my fond anſwering ſo frivolous a queſtion, which you urge but for a tryall, to prefer your diſpleaſure or mine owne ſhame.

Why Timoclea, ſquoth the King, you miſtake me if you thinke I jeſt, for on my honour, I meane what I ſay, therefore dally not with me, if you hope of my good. But tell me if thou doeſt love, or will love my friend?

The Lady hearing the King in earneſt, although ſhe could be well content to have enjoyed the ſweet pleaſures of love in Marriage, thus ſaid: Dread Lord, and my moſt gracious Soveraigne, ſithence it is your pleaſure I ſhould anſwer your demand, know, that as modeſty is the Ornament of Maids, and chaſtity the Garland that beautifieth all our ſexe, ſo have I carefully weyed mine honour in ſuch manner, that I neither love, nor as yet ever made choyce of any in love, but have eſchewed all ſuch frivolous motions of the fleſh, to my greateſt power, as beſeemeth a Lady of ſuch honour that I may love, I doubt not, becauſe it is the commandement of our Maker, and incident to all creatures, who in their kinds make choyſe of ſome one to participate with: Yet ſhall my love never be ſuch, as may diſparage your Highneſſe love towards me, but ſuch as ſhall be to your content. And as for your Graces pleaſure to beſtow me on a man ſo honourable, ſo ſtandeth it with

your

your will to let me know him, I will answer more directly.

God a mercy for that wench, quoth the King, then I doubt not but we shall have a match, or elle thy wishome is not such as I wish it were. But tell me unfeignedly my Timoclea, canst thou love the Lord Diphilus, a man for birth honourable, for valour to compare with most adventuring Knights in the world, in person comely, and so debonnaire in his behaviour, as for courtesie, he is to be matched with the best: He is the man Pamphilus, whom if you can fancy, thou honourest me in thy love, and thou shalt find me a Brother, nay a Father, if Fathers love may exceed the Brothers. Say therefore thy mind; and let me know thy answer.

The Lady whose hope was, her Brothers suite had been for Loves Heroick Champion, with whose love she was a little touched yet modestly mastering such fond motions, would not let affection take such rote, but that she could at her pleasure expell it. After the Lady had heard her Brother whom she perceived by his earnestnesse in uttering his suite, would not willingly be denyed, she said; Pardon me my good Lord, if I passe modestly, considering your great praise of the Gentleman, believe me, he is much beholding unto your Grace, who could have thought you would have proved so good a soliciter; had your study been the Lawes of this Realme, no doubt, but you would have had many Clyents; were the Gentleman here himselfe, he could not have said thus much; and therefore he may think himselfe beloved and honoured of your Highnesse.

But for answer, as I would have you in your first wooing disgraced, least it discourage you in your owne enterprises being a Bachelor, so can I say little of my selfe, who is to be governed by you, to whom in all humblenesse I referre me, and shall so you be pleased, be content. if it were with one not so worthy as the Lord Diphilus. (And yet.)

Nay Madame, qd. the King, leave not off so abruptly with an a Parenthesis, your words are doubtfull. Tell me therefore is there any other before me? If there be, and thou hast made choyce, (and you both agree) I will not gainsay it, nor force thee to any other then thy owne content in Marriage. Therefore say, what those words (and yet) imported?

Pardon my overboldneſſe, gracious Lord, anſwered the Lady which unadviſedly overpaſt thoſe Speeches and credit my word, which have no love fixed in my heart, but will endeavour my ſelfe to the liking of him whom you ſhall command me, yet will I anſwer your demand, and meaning of thoſe words taken ſo by your Grace at rebound, though I muſt and will frame me to the love and liking of the Lord Diphilus. Yet had the noble Queene all beene pleaſed, and with that a deep ſigh ſtay'd her tongue, in ſuch wiſe as ſhee could goe no further.

The King underſtanding which way the wind of her deſire blew, though hee could have beene better content with her choyce, yet to put her from other thoughts, and to have his ſute take effect, hee perſwaded her to let ſlip ſuch fond imaginations, for that hee had placed his love on a Lady of his Countrey, whom he would not leave for all the world. With theſe happy tydings of the Lord Diphilus, after ſome other kind ſpeeches to the Lady the King departed, ſo joying in his good ſucceſſe, that hee could not reſt untill hee had comforted the Lord Diphilus with his anſwer, whoſe mind egged on by Loves Heroick Champion, was ſo fired on the Lady, that ſhe was become the Miſtreſſe of his heart, and hee joyed in nothing but in contemplating of her Love thinking every houre a moneth, untill hee heard the Kings anſwer, muſing thus on his Love, tolſing with a mind diſquieted from one ſide of the bed to the other, his Page brought him word that a Gentleman from ye King attended to ſpeak with him; wch ſudden newes revived ſo his ſpirits, as made his heart more light then long time before it had beene, hoping to heare ſuch tydings as his loving ſute required. The Meſſenger having delivered his Meſſage, judge you that be Lovers, whether you could ſlacke any time untill you heard the dome of your Miſtreſſe, which he was aſſured to doe by the King unto whom he haſteneth with ſuch ſpeed as he could. To whoſe preſence being come, the King as joyfull for his good ſucceſſe and his ſiſters grant, as the Lord Diphilus to heare it, with a ſmiling countenance, which ſhewed the joy of his heart: ſaid;

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My Lord, though my skill in woing be but small, having never accustomed my selfe to any such practise, yet have I playd the cunning Advocate for your Lordship, and will assure you, so you hold your word and promise, the Princesse shall be yours, and thereon take my word of honour.

Diphilus, so over-joyed at these tydings, could not well tell whether he heard the King speake or dreamed of this happinesse. But standing a while in an extasie, his sences being come againe, with eyes beholding the King thus said; My honourable and gracious Lord, what may I doe to requite your Princely favour, who hath vouchsafed mee so great honour, not only to bestow your only Sister on me, but to my honourable solicitor, what I would say, modesty compelleth mee to conceale. Only this I assure your Majesty, my loyall service shall ever be ready at your command, in such dutifull manner that your Majesty shall have no cause to repent of so great a good done unto a Stranger. Enough my Lord, few words doth suffice among friends, wherefore forbeare these speeches, love my Sister, and for her sake, thinke of mee as a friend, which will be ever ready to doe you what pleasure I can.

To give you some interest of my faith, appoint the marriage day at your pleasure, and for her dowry accept this Kingdome of Ægypt, which shall remaine to you and your Heires for ever, onely this Homage shall you yearely render in my Court of Hungaria, two swift running Coursers of this Countrey, and so God make you happy in your Love, and a Father of many Children. With this Loves Heroick Champion entred his presence, unto the King what man so welcome, his duty done, the King lovingly imbracing him, said;

Sir Knight, I have not long sithence comforted your friend with my happy tydings, and not only assured him of a wife, which I hope will prove loving and kind unto him, but have invested him with the title of the King of Ægypt, of both which I wish him so much joy, as I desire to have joy, his wedding day let him appoint at his pleasure, which shall with the greatest honour it can be performed.

Most gracious and dread Lord, quoth the Knight, how this your honourable curtesie hath tyed me unto your service, I omit, that at my request hath thus favoured my deare friend, who e good I esteeme as mine owne, and ever will be ready with my best endeavour to serve at all times & places where my force or service may doe, either your Majesty or my Lord Diphilus good. And seeing it is wrought to his content & your Graces good liking, let me intreat this favour of you both, that the Wedding may be suddenly solemnized, for that my stay may not be long here, such desire I have to see my Soveraigne Lord, who I am sure expecteth my returne long before this time. Sir, quoth the King, did you know how displeasing those speeches of your departure were to me, that desire nothing in ẏ whole world so much as your company, you would never harpe so much on that string. But how long soever your stay shall be, this day Eight dayes I doe appoint for the Wedding, to my Lord Diphilus be agreed, and say Amen.

Never (qd. Diphilus) let him be allowed for Clarke, which refuseth to say Amen, to such a Parson, the Princes bringing such content, seeing your Majesty referres it to me, Amen say I, and humbly thanke your Grace for your honourable favour.

The Wedding day appointed and assigned, the King sent for the Princes who that night supped all together which being ended, the Princes in presence of many of the Lords of Hungaria and Ægypt, was betrothed unto the Lord Diphilus, and the Marriage day appointed against which time were all the Nobles summoned to be at Court to attend the King, by whose commandement all the preparation for honour of that day might be devised was ordained, the time of night being spent, summoned their watchfull eyes to sleepe, wherefore after many solemne Adues, taken one of the other they hastened on all sides to their rest, only Diphilus and the Princes best content she joying in her Love, and kingly Brothers liking, and he blessing a million of times the day wherein he first saw the Prince, procurer of his so great good.

Certain other imaginations assailed them, let those suppose and thinke which have felt the sweet content in Love. To which I leave them to recount unto you the forren of the Trebi-

Trebisond Queene who ruling with honour, beloved both of Peers and Commons, in as much royalty as might be desired endured so many sundry torments of mind, wanting her most desire, that the Day was irkesome unto her and the Night ordained for rest, restlesse she consumed, that with her continuall watchings and other passions her body became weake, and a grievous sicknesse assailed her, the cause no man could imagine, neither might Physick minister any cure to her disease: So that giving over to death she languished in great extremities, not daring for modesty to reveale the cause, onely this was her chiefest comfort, when she could be freed from the company of such Ladies and Counsellers which visited her, with Syritha to recount her Love, sometime extolling his valour and person, and by and by accusing him of disloyalty, exclaiming on her hard fortune, which had engaged her liberty to a Knight careless of her honour and good, curling and accusing Syritha being solliciter for such a wretched Knight, whose speeches oftentimes was so answered by the Mayden Syritha, as in jesting wise would she turne her words of despight into laughter, such was the sharpnesse of her wit, which left no meanes unsought that might procure in the least her content.

Oppressed with griefe (we leave this Princess for a while) to returne unto Diphilus, whose Wedding day being come, great was the joy on his side, but more the preparation of all Courtiers, who were ready with many costly showes at the Tilt, Turney, and Barriers, to try their valour and fortunes in Armes. But as the fairest day is overcast with clouds, so was their mirth changed to great and grievous lamentations, and their joy to sorrowfull complaints, which thus befell.

The King now in prime of yeares desirous to try his force at the Tilt with his presence to honour his Nobles, and doe the Princes favour at her Marriage in these pastimes, made choice of Loves Heroick Champion to encounter him as the worthiest at Armes, who being of all others most unwilling to runne against him, humbly besought his Grace of pardon, and accept of some of his Nobles who was worthier of that honour. But the King with whom no intreaties might prevaile

would not be denyed, which made the Knight with great heavinesse of heart, to wish he had not armed him that day, such was his discontented mind, which doubtlesse presaged some great ensuing evill, as to ꝑ great griefe of all the whole company hapned them. Thus when no denials might prevaile, the Trumpets sounding a charge, they set forwards with such swiftnesse, as the earth trembled under their horses, both breaking their staves in such manner, as all the Company with joyfull shoutes applauded their excellent skill in that exercise.

But alas (in midst of this pleasing practise) how sodainly their joyes were eclipsed, woe is me to recount. The King and his elected Companion, at the Trumpets sound, setting with courage forward to encounter one ꝑ other, in brave manner brake againe their staves, but in an unhappy time, a splinter of the Knights staffe, by most unfortunate chance (entred the sight of the Kings Beaver) which pierced the head to the braine, in such wise, that with the heate of his travaile and griefe of the wound, he was enforced to forsake his horse. This sodaine mishap to the company, brought such discontent, that all their mirth was laid apart, and sorrow was Lady of the feast. But amongst those that most lamented this unfortunate chance. Loves Heroick Champion had his part, whose griefe was such, that had not the Lord Diphilus beene by fortune present, in the extreame of his melancholy passion he had slaine himselfe: Such was the wisedome of the Noble Diphilus, whose reasonable perswasions prevailed so with him as he caused him to forsake his dolefull Lodge, to accompany him to the presence of the King, whose Masters of Chirurgery had newly ended the travaile of dressing his wounds; then the Knight questioned of the danger thereof, & besought them in courtesie to acquaint him therewith, whether he held it mortall or no, which how unwilling soever they were, as loth to discomfort the King of those which loved him, such was the courteous entreaty of the Knight, as he could not conceale the danger thereof, but revealed unto him the little hopes they had of his life, and the reasons that induced them thereunto, which newes was little pleasing unto the Knight, who with many teares lamented the

mishap

mishap, but griefe ministreth no Physicke to the diseased, nor sorrow availeth not to mittigate extreames. Wherefore by Diphilus comforted, he ceaseth in so exceeding manner to lament, determining to abide the Kings come, unto whom he purposeth to reconcile himselfe, and to that intent awaiteth the waking of his Majesty, who was after his dressing fallen asleep, whose griefe was such as he could take small rest. But rowsing himselfe, awaked from slumber, called for the Lord Diphilus, who was waiting only for the same purpose, unto whom being come he saith;

Diphilus let no man boast himselfe of happinesse which is mortall, for that they are subject to crosses & casuall mishaps, as thy selfe maist witnesse with me, and many others y have seene this misch nce befallen me, when I least expected it, the originall of my griefe proceeding from my selfe, which would perforce my good friend to the action whereunto hee was so unwillingly drawne, but what Heavens have ordained what man can gaine-say? The Omnipotent power of the Almighty, hath laid his crosse on me for my greater good, to call mee from these worlds vanities, to seek his everlasting kingdom; Yet ere I leave this fraile life, sweet Diphilus let me see that honourable Knight, by whose hands death sent his sommons, deare he was unto me, and his love worthy to be imbraced of the mightiest Monarch. Oh Pheander, couldest thou but imagine with what faithfull love I loved thee, thou maist sorrow for my losse, whom thou and all the world cannot reclaime from this great hazard wherin I remain, with this the Knight which was not farre off, presented himselfe unto him, who kneeling at his beds side, said;

Most gracious Soveraigne, might my grieved heart which overwhelmed in sorrow, is drowned in a Sea of many miseries consume it selfe with griefe, for my evill committed against you, how happy a creature were I, which have beene the occasion of your Highnesse so great unrest, yet how unwilling, Heavens record with mee: And therefore my dread Soveraigne, pardon my fault, so unwillingly committed against your Majesty, as deare to me as mine owne soule, whose life,

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if ten thousand lives depended thereon, I wish might be sacrificed for thy health, and the loving Subjects of my gracious Soveraigne, whom by my overhardiness I have robbed of so loving a Prince; Let me I say, chiefe causer of your sorrow, reape the guerdon due to a murtherer & revenge your Kings death, by taking my life, which had I a million of thousand lives could not make satisfaction for my evill committed against you. Here teares interrupting him, denying his tongue liberty of speech, whose lamentation filled all the Nobles with such heavinesse, as for teares they could not utter a word, especially the King, whose griefe being great, was increased by his dolefull lament, yet casting off this womanish humour, drying his eyes, doubting the Nobles and those present should accuse him of feare, (dreading to dye) whereunto we are all born with a soft voyce tenderly wringing Loves Heroick Champion by the hand, he saith; Noble Gentleman, cease thy heavinesse, thy griefe so augments mine that the thought thereof wrings teares from my heart; thy unwilling offence with my heart I forgive, and to shew how deare in life thou wast unto me, (my good Pheander) accept at my dying hand, my Kingdome of Hungaria, the lawfull Inheritance of thy faithfull friend, love those people my kind Subjects, and so governe them with favour and lenity, as they have no cause to complaine of my dead Corps, and for my life, which by thy hand through the appointment of him that gave it me, I must leave, I heartily forgive thee and accursed be he or them which shall ever impute unto thee in dishonour any fault against me committed. That thou lovest me, thy tender care of my good hath shewed such proofes as tyed me in true friendship to be thine for ever. Death is not so irkesome unto me, but that I must leave thee, and the sweet content I received in thy company, griefe of my deaths griefe, my owne Pheander, compelleth me to omit what I would say, wherefore briefly thus; Forget not thy dying friend, and shew that love to the Lord Diphilus whom for thy sake I have to this Crowne of Ægypt advanced, as I ever found, and in extreames comfort him with thy aide as thou hast done me: My Sister Imoclea forget not, whom to thy charge I commit (leaving her to thee) and thee

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to be in my place a brother, who living loved her, as my hope is thou wilt. And so deare friends (heavens blessednesse befall you all) and so prosper you, as I loved you. And you Peeres of Ægypt and Hungaria, whose love I have found as Subjects in all dutifull manner, let be continued unto these your elected Kings, who will with honour governe you, so shall the giver of all happinesse blesse you and your lands, with the blessing of peace and plenty: For they that honour their King, doth reverence the Lord who created him, and he will give them plenteous rewards. Noble Gentlemen, grise cutteth me off, flesh must yield to earth, how loath soever the mightiest death hath banquished. Therefore as my Ultimum vale, remember my words, and pray God to send us the abundance of his Grace, that we may through his mercy, have a joyfull meeting in his Kingdome that never shall have end. I feele the heavy Messenger approaching, therefore farewell to thee my deare Sister, whom I charge as thou lovedst me living, be loving and kind to thy Husband, doing him that honour is due unto him, thy children bring up in feare of their Maker, and so God blesse thee with happinesse. And thou Pheander, unto me no creature in life more deare remember my parting Speeches, love the Lord Diphilus, as I have loved thee, and thou my adopted brother Diphilus, honour him during thy life, that I am sure faithfully tendered and loved thee, so shall God be pleased, for no sin in sight of his divine Deity, is more intollerale, then that monstrous vice of Ingratitude, which for avoyding the heavy wrath of God, I wish thee to eschew. Nobles and you all my good friends, to exhort you, to remember your duties, whose wisdom is more then I will recount, were a matter frivolous, and perhaps may more offence, yet take my simple meaning (which speake to you that have over-loved me) which love let be continued; Honour your Kings with reverence and love, for what you doe to them is done to GOD, which are his Vice-regents on earth, and his annoynted: Nobe no rebellion nor be maintainers of evill, for such faults, how secret soever, God will to your overthrowes reveale. Remember his word which hath commanded you to be obedient, without murmuring, and feare him which governeth all.

I can say no more, my speech faileth me, therefore generally my Lords, fare well: And so turning his weake body to the wall, surrendred his soule to the Heavens, from whence it had his being, to the intollerable griefe of all his Subjects, who with many humish teares lamented his death, but especially the Knight Pheander and Diphilus, whose Parriage the loving King honoured with his Funerall, which in the most honourablest manner, Art or honour could devise, was solemnized, lamented generally of all his Subjects, but especially the Ægyptians, who more dearely loved him for his clemency, then their owne naturall King.

Chap. XXVI.

How *Loves Heroick Champion*, having setled the King *Diphilus* in his Kingdomes, well furnished with a Fleet of gallant Galleyes arrived in *Trebisond*, and was welcõmed of the Lord high-Admirall *Remnius*, who met him in the Harbour.

The Funerall finished, a Parliament was summond, in which time, Loves Heroick Champion so prevailed with the Nobles of Hungaria and Ægypt, that by common consent of the whole Assembly in both houses, temperall and spirituall, the Regiments of both kingdomes was delivered unto the Lord Diphilus, and Loves Heroick Champion resigned his interest forever to him and the Lady, who was lawfull inheritrix unto the same. The Parliament prorogued according to the custome of the Countrey, great preparation was made for the Coronation, which in most solemne and honourable manner was accomplished, with so many sundry shewes and delightfull pleasures, as might weary you to read. Let it suffice to the great joy of both Realmes, all things to so honourable an action was so exquisitly performed, as no man but tooke great delight in beholding thereof, praying with an universall voice for their long lives, to live in happinesse amongst them continued.

Thus all things to the joy of the Noble Pheander accomplished, and to the high content of the King Diphilus, and his

Queene

Queen by the advise of Loves Heroick Champion, an election was made of a Vizeroy to goe for Hungaria, the King making choyce of two evils, ẏ least conceiving this opinion of the naturall Subjects of Hungaria, that they would live in their dutifull obeysance, when a conquering Nation gathering head upon many light occasions, was easily drawne to revolt.

These considerations with great wisdome weyed, the Lord Ferdinand, one of the Privie Councell of Hungaria, was elected for that Government, unto whom ẏ King after his Commission signed, and honourable gifts given, so wisely exhorted to obedience, and care of his love and duty, that as many of the Nobles as were present, and noted the same, admired him, rejoycing that God had provided so for them, to leave them in the Government of so toward a Prince, of whom so much ensuing happinesse was expected.

Order taken for his affaires of weight, the Vizeroy embarqued for Hungaria, and his Nobles departed each one unto their severall Mansions, saving such of his Privie Councell, which were attendant at the Court. The Noble Pheander was now to take his leave, the very remembrance whereof, was more offensive to the King and Queene, then all their former troubles. Bootlesse it was to intreat his longer stay, who standing on thornes till his desire was obtained in beholding the most beautifull Princesse, might no longer be perswaded: Wherfore the King to honour him the more, by whom hee was for ever honoured, caused a Fleet to bee prepared of twenty Galleyes, whom by his voyage, which on such sodaine was provided, as might well shew their diligence to whom that great charge was committed. All things ready for his departure, and a faire wind blowing a fresh and comfortable gale, these friends were now to depart.

After leave taken of the Princesse, who with many brinish teares bewayled the same, the King with his Peeres accompanied him to the water side, where his company appoynted to attend him, awaited his comming, where after heavy parting on both sides, and many teares spent of the Commons which beheld their sorrowes, hee embarqued himselfe, and by the good favour of the winds, and diligent industry of his Mar-

riners, suddainly lost sight of Land, and the wind so favourable, that in short time they attained sight of the high Land of Trebisond, with which they did beare all that they might, yet could not possibly recover their Port that night.

This Fleet of Galleyes being on the shore discryed, none could imagine what they were or should be, to prevent the worst, the Councell carefull of their owne safeties, and Commons good, assembled the power of their City, making provision for defence what ever hapned.

The Master of the Admirall not daring to enter the Harbour by night, lay off againe into the Sea, hulling until the day-watch was in Land, at which time they set Sayle to goe for their Harbour, and by favourable assistance of the winds recovered the same. After the Sunne had shewed her selfe in her beauty two houres, to survey which power, and give notice to the Queen what they were, the Lord Remnius, Lord high Admirall of ỹ Land was in a Frigot sent, who bonging as much as the force of his Slaves would permit him, being a man Honourable and venturous, not knowing what they were, whether friends or enemies, came up with the Admirall, and layd her aboard; of whose comming Loves Heroick Champion being advertised, doing him duty, caused his Flagge to be furled, and his Ancient to be taken down, whose order the whole Fleet followed. When the Admirall saw the Knight Pheander, whose welfare they greatly doubted, but seeing them was much rejoycing and many imbracings as friends joyfull to see one the other. Passing in pleasant parley the time they came to Anchor, at which time according to directions given by the Knight, all their Ordnance was discharged with their small Artillery, rejoycing according to the Sea manner for their safe arrivall, to the great admiration of all the beholders, which could not certainly imagine what they were: No sooner were the Anchors a-ground, but the Lord Admirall causing his Frygot to come aboard, entred the same accompanied with Loves Heroick Champion, and other Nobles of Hungaria and Egypt, which came to accompany him as Ambassadors from the King, who were all most royally entertained of the Nobles which attended their landing, and were conduc-

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ted to the Court, where according to their Estates they were sumptuously lodged in the Court, and like order taken for provisions for their Traine.

Amongst others that had enquired the newes of these Strangers, and what they were, Syntha by chance (as women are inquisitive of Novelties) had with diligence learned what those Nobles so royally entertained were, with the Arrivall of Loves Heroick Champion, who was no sooner known unto the joyfull Queen (made more joyfull by these happy Tydings) but standing on thornes untill she came to the presence of the Queen, doubting least her newes should be so stale before she came, as it would be scarce worth the carriage, she omitted no time: To whom being come, and finding the Queene in her accustomed melancholy passions, though now some way otherwise imployed about ỹ imaginations of these Strangers, to put her from her study, thus said.

What Madam, ever in your Melancholy, in Faith were I of your Privie Councell, and might perswade with you, I would wish your Majesty to become Lady of some Nunnery, where you might have company, since nothing may delight you but Contemplation. Syntha, quoth the Queene, cease thy fond talke at this time, and give me leave, who have matters of weight to imploy me on. If it be so Madam (quoth Syntha) I am to crave pardon for my boldnesse, otherwise (if it might not have bene offensive) I could have acquainted your Highnesse with some newes of Loves Heroick Champion, which because I see it is troublesome unto you having busines, I beseech your Grace license me to depart, untill it shall please your Ladiship to find leisure to heare me.

The Queene hearing her name Loves Heroick Champion, was so waked from her dumps as she called Syntha, and with earnest intreaties besought her to let her know, what newes she had heard of these Strangers, and what moved her to name Loves Heroick Champion. Madam (qd. Syntha) if your Ladiship would have permitted me to speake, I had without further delayes acquainted you with such newes of these Strangers as I heare, and have diligently enquired, who are Nobles of Hungaria in Ambassage for the King, accompanied with the

beſt welcommed knight in Affrica; the Peerleſſe Pheander, your Graces lowlie Servant: The naming of whom ſo revived the Queen, that he that had the leaſt ſight might have perceived how pleaſing theſe newes were unto her, yet doubtfull of her Payedens ſpeeches which had deluded her, to move delight, ſhe ſaid:

Syritha, thou haſt had more pleaſure in feeding me with vain hopes, then hath contented me; yet have I borne thy follies, imagining in what ſort they were us'd. But now Syritha, leave thy Jeſts leaſt they grow odious, and move me to choller againſt thee, which would not willingly be drawn unto: Therefore tell me without dallying, is my knight arrived with theſe Nobles, or is there certain Tydings of his good health by theſe Strangers.

Madam (qo. Syritha) if my over-boldneſſe have incurred your diſpleaſure, I humbly crave pardon, who had no intent to offend, he witneſſe with me which ſearcheth my deepeſt ſecrets, but to aſſure you of what you ſo much deſire, know Madame, Loves Heroick Champion is with theſe Nobles arrived, who as I heare are come from the Lord Diphilus, who by procurement of Loves Heroick Champion, is married with the Princeſſe of Hungaria, and is royally Crowned by conſent of both Realmes, lawfull King of Hungaria and Ægypt, the one his Queenes lawfull Inheritance, the other the late Kings Conqueſt, who by unhappy fortune hath left this life: Thus Madame have I acquainted your Highneſſe with what I have heard, the truth thereof being proved, I hope will procure my pardon. Syritha (qo. the Queen) ten thouſand times I thanke thee for thy Tydings, which I will ſo requite, as it ſhall be the beſt newes that ever paſſed thy mouth, to give thee ſome aſſurance thereof, take for a better Reward and take this Diamond, which ſhe pulling off from her finger, delivered it her. The haſty approaching of ỹ Councell interrupted their ſpeech, cauſing them to crave their further parley, who waiting the Queenes pleaſure, ſent her word, they had ſome matter to impart unto her, who were preſently admitted to her preſence accompanied with Loves Heroick Champion.

The Councels duties being done, Loves Heroick Champion preſented

presented himselfe unto her Majesty, whose sight so appalled her as she could say nothing, whereat Modesty striving with her willingnesse to bid him welcome, which she could not doe as she would, least her countenance should disclose her hearts desire, yet not omitting such Honourable favour as she could doe him, she offered her hand to kisse, which in all humblenesse he accepted, acknowledging his most bounden duty unto her Highnesse, whom she questioned in this manner.

Servant qd. she, we had thought your liking had been such to the Dames of Hungaria, as we should have been invited to your Wedding, or that your entertainment had been so evill in our Court, as you were weary of the same, that you have thus long absented your selfe from our presence (under Gods blessing) Servant, as you owe duty to your Mistris, make me your Ghostly Father, and before my Lords here present, tell me & dissemble not, what hath been y cause of your long stay?

Gracious Soveraigne (qd. the Knight) if I answer what is truth, I hope your Majesty will accept it, and pardon me, if to my harsh answer I paint those duties which I would not willingly doe. For my Love to forraine Ladies I may justly deny, wch never saw any since my departure from your Confines, in whose presence I tooke pleasure; During my long stay, how unwilling that hath been, I call to record these Noble Strangers which can testifie my long desire to have tendered my duetifull Service unto your Highnesse, whereunto I am bound: Therefore dread Lady, pardon my offence therin, who being at a forrain Princes commandement, must obey it.

Well Servant, qd. the Queene, I must give credit to your words, else should I doe you wrong, but howsoever you are welcome to your Mistris, who is a debtor of yours. The sight of this Noble Physician wrought more effects then all the Medicines Art could minister, whose p[illegible]s quite expelled all former cares from her Princely heart, though her Body weakened with her long languishing could not be so sodainly restored: But time and short time, with the comfort she conceived of her loving Prince, restored her to her former health, as you shall heare in the ensuing History.

Now returne we to the Nobles, who awaited her Highnesse pleasure,

pleaſure, for which the Queene leaving of her ſpeech with the Knight thus ſaid: Honourable Lords, if it be no matter of counſell for which your comming is at this time, let us know the cauſe, my Servant I dare commit ſome truſt unto, who ſhall participate of theſe your affaires. Highteſt Princeſſe, (qd. the Lord Timarchus) matter of State concerning the Government or affaires of your Common-wealth we have not to utter, but only doe beſeech your Highneſs to command for your honour that theſe noble Strangers be entertained according to their eſtates, with ſuch curteſie and bounty that they may have cauſe to ſpeake of your Court and honourable Entertainment as of a worthy deſerving Prince. And more to doe your noble Subjects honour, the Lord Diphilus who by Marriage of the deceaſed Kings Sister is Crowned lawfull King both of Hungaria and Ægypt. This is all moſt gracious Lady, whereof if you pleaſe to conceive and give order for the ſame accordingly, you ſhall highly honour us your Subjects and gaine to your ſelfe the famous report of Strangers, which is the garment that beautifieth Princes and Governours of States.

Thanks Noble Gentlemen (qd. the Queen) for your honorable care of us, which are not acquainted with any ſuch matters, wherefore I beſeech you Lord Timarchus, to keep them company during their ſtay here, let my Officers attend them and their allowance be ſuch as may not impaire our bountifull mind thereby to deſerve honor, (if feaſting be honorable) eſpecially let their traine be well provided for both in large allowance of wyands and lodging, for theſe are they by whom fame will ring, being of the baſer ſort, either of honour or dishonor, as for their Ambaſſage we will omit hearing, untill God endue us with more ſtrength, and ſo farewell.

The Nobles having done their duties and gone, it may be imagined, whether the Knight departed with conſent or no, on whom the Queen beſtowed ſo gracious a look, as he might well judge of his welcome but command longer ſtay ſhe would not to avoyd the ſuſpition of Jealouſie, or that her love ſhould be in the leaſt ſort ſuſpected. Content with the ſight of her beloved, after their departure commanding the reſt of the compa-

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up from her, detaining only Syritha, between them began some pleasant parly, wherein first the Queen & then Syritha, descanted at their pleasure of the Knight, omitting no gesture he used in his speech, his person, and what else greatly delighted the Princess, who would often say, how mannerly is my Servant become? Yea, qd. Syritha, it is hard to say, whether he learned the same of man or woman, nay, on my word, qd. the Princess, I dare acquit him, for any company keeping with women, his Maydenly blush alloweth me that he hath learned no Courting fashions of the Hungarian Ladies. I beleive (qd. Syritha) and Madam so ever beleive, for a good beliefe is a step to salvation, or by my Conscience your chiefest Chaplin is not so just a man as he ought to be. Thus pleasantly discoursing we leave them to recount unto you the royall entertainment of the Hungarian Nobles and their followers.

The Lo. Timachus, to whom the Queen had delivered this charge as you have heard, toke such care in performance thereof, that as he was Noble and every way endued with honourable conditions, so was his care in discharge of that truste committed unto him, as the Nobles admired their royall Cheere, their diversity of Sports to beguile time with costly showes, each accident so exquisitly performed, as the imaginations thereof admired those strange Nobles, when the company had left them to their rests, in contemplating of their gracious entertainment to consume some time the most part of the night, admiring the bounty of the Queene whom they with earnest minds desired to see. As these Nobles consumed their time with pleasure, which made it seeme the shorter, so the Queen which had care for receiving their message, after ẏ first sight of her servant began to comfort herselfe, that with those comfortable cordials her Doctors provided, and receiving such dyet as Physick thought most meete, shee began to recover her decayed colour, and her faint limbs overweake with forbearing such [illegible] ere with Nature should be relieved, recovered their strength in [illegible] wise, as it joyed her Subjects to heare of her recovery.

Time which overcommeth mighty things hath brought the Queen to that good estate, as finding a day wh reins the Sunnes power banquished the ayres rumatick colonels she walked into the Garden where she solaced her selfe, beholding Natures abilliments which beautifie the earth in such manner that the pleasantnes thereof with the sweet smels bred her great content.

Chap. XXVII.

How the Knight wayting opportunity met the Queen in her Garden of pleasure, and their parley, and what happened between the Knight and *Syrithe*.

THe Heroick Champion which had desire to shew his duty in attending her royall Highnesse, hearing this happie tydings hasteneth to the Garden, whom the Queen no sooner saw but calling him unto her, after his duty done and her Majesty taking him up from the ground from of his knee, she said: My Lord, what excuse can you frame now, for neglecting your duty to your Mistresse, which cannot have your sight being in Court without a Messenger in the sight of any one attending us, be offensive unto your Grace we will remove them rather then loose your company, so we may know them.

Noble Princess answered the Knight, that I acknowledge not my duty as I ought, pardon me, and weigh me in the ballance of your gracious clemency, my zeale & hearty desire to doe you service; who albeit my heart desireth no such happinesse as your Princely presence, yet knowing that Princes have many eyes to behold them, and envy lurketh in the hearts of Subjects, who imagining more then is on eyther of our parts thought, may with their evill speech raise a scandall, as may blemish your renowne being a Virgin, and procure my greater trouble which am a Stranger.

Neatly excused, qd. the Queene, I see now good Servant you have not spent your time idely abroad, if I might know your Schoolemistres, I would thanke her for the diligent teaching of her Scholler.

Madam, qd. the Prince, I am glad to heare your Grace so well disposed, I hope your Majesty having recovered strength, and your businesse with these Nobles overpast, will think of your servant and remember your word to me, wch challenge at your Majesties hand.

My Lord, qd she, had I not held thy love in regard, I could not have denyed the many suites of my Peers and Commons which have besought me, and with great earnestnes entreated me to Marriage, but so deare hath thy love been unto me, that I desired death rather then falsifie my Faith to your Grace, for whom and through whose unkindnes I have endured much hearts discontent.

No more of that, qd. the Knight (good Madame) expell from your mind passed griefes, and think upon ensuing pleasures which will exceed all the discontent hath been: to heare your discontent is little plea-

pleasing unto me, who never closed those eyes, nor never beheld the rising of the glorious Sun, without millions of times remembring your Grace, whose presence I more desired then I will explaine. Syritha seeing some of the Councell entring the Garden, gave them intelligence thereof, breaking off their speech thus: Sir, if you have taken orders in holy Church since your departure, it is more then is expected of all the Court, which in times past have shewed your self so worthily in Armes to your lasting honour. If you have, and her Grace have chosen you for her Ghostly Father, enjoyne I beseech you her Majesty to some safe pennance, for her long Sickness is not to endure much fasting; besides, here is of the Councell who hath waited to say something, either to the Queen or your Grace.

These words of Syritha, caused them to surcease their talke, and with shewes of loving countenances to give each other the Farewel. The Knight framing his talk to Syritha, who leading him alone thus said: Sir, experience of mine own discontent hath taught me what a corrosive Melancholy is to a pleasant mind, who in your absence have endured many sharpe words; yea, and oftentimes those thundering speeches, lighting with blowes either on my ribs, head or face (in revenge of which) had you bin present for whose sake I endured them, I should have adventured the breaking of a sword with your Grace or greatly have wanted of my will.

Why how now Syritha (qd. the Knight) art thou metamorphosed? Hath the Goddess joyned the abiliments of a Man, as well as armed thy heart with courage? (Faire wench) art thou so valiantly minded to breake a Blade? Take heed, 'tis dangerous for you to deale with Weapons, but I will desire the Queen to search you, lest happily as bad a chance befall her Maids, as Dania which entertained Jupiter in likenes of a Swan; If Syritha be like wise by their consents alienated from her sex, it were good to prevent evils in time, had I wist commeth too late.

My Lord (quoth Syritha) blushing with shame, your Lordship hath through my fondnes taken me at advantage, misconstring my simple meaning which have ever honoured you: Conceale my folly in this good my Lord and forget it, and pardon my foolish words, which have felt many stripes for you. May Syritha (qd. the Knight) I may not with mine honour let passe a matter of such importance without revealing it to your Highnes, least your words (as you say) spoken in jeast turne some of our Ladies in earnest to be beholden to mother Widwife.

The Queen which had reposed her selfe with beholding the beauty of Nature, and taken the pleasant ayre which did greatly comfort her, having some conference with her Nobles, departed the Garden, which made the rest with all the speed they could make to follow; whereof Syricha was nothing sorrowfull, who was thereby compeld to leave the Knight, of whom she wished long before to have chat her hands.

The Queen gathering some strength, was loath to detaine the strange Nobles any longer from her Presence: wherefore by her Nobles she limited a time to heare them, against which day were all her Nobles summoned to be at Court, with her Ladies (and women of most accompt (to attend her Majesty, who with the Lo. Steward of her Houshold had taken such order for all diversity of daintles that might be provided.

The day appointed come, not unexpected of the Strangers who provided themselves as sumptuous as they could, apparelled in their Country manner, attended the time of her Majesties comming forth, who being come, & in her Chaire of State seated, word was brought unto the Strangers, who marching with the Nobles of Trebisond, through the Court, were in most honourable manner presented unto her Majesty, who with a joyfull countenance and Grace majesticall as became her Royalty, had them all welcome in such courteous and Princely maner, that the Strangers at this first sight were driven to great admiration, beholding that Grace & honour in a Woman, which they would never have believed had not their eyes been witnesses. The Queen having given them these honorable welcomes, each man taking his place Protectus the chiefest in Commission for their King, thus said.

Magnificent Prince, our King your Highnesse late Subject, acknowledging his humble duty to your Excellence, hath sent us his Liegemen & sworne Servants to signifie the same; who in faithfull love beweth, never to be alienated in mind from that duty, which becommeth each naturall Subject to owe his Prince and Country: By us he presents his offer and Service, which shall be with all his power ready at your Highnes pleasure; the rest his honorable Letters import, which humbly kissing, on their knees they delivered into her Princely hands, who returned many thanks to their King for his Love, with like to them, which had vouchsafed that travell to see her Court and presence beseeching them to take in good part a Maydens entertainment, in doing which, she should thinke her selfe much beholding

holding unto them. With pleasant parley, and discoursing of sundry matters & questions by the Queene propounded touching their Countries, they passed their time until Dinner, not without great admiration of the Strangers, which beheld her stately Grace, her sumptuous Attire, the duty and Honour done by her Nobles and Ladies, which with their costly Apparell and most rare excellence in Beauty greatly delighted them. The time of Dinner drawing neare, the Tables covered and all things prepared for the same, the Queen taking her place, the Ambassadours were likewise placed at another Table in her presence: The manner of her Service with the diversity of Viands of all sorts was such, as they could hardly believe, so many sundry kinds of Fowle, Fish, and other cheare for them prepared, as were to be found in the limits of the Earth. Thus with great delight being welcommed by her Highnesse they spent their time until the end of Dinner, still admiring the Majesty of her Grace, which so honourably bare her as no Prince in her time could compare with her. Dinner ended, the Queen curteously bidding those Strangers welcome, she was conducted by her Nobles into a Gallery, wch for beautifull shewes, with rare Pictures and devises of rich price, was so adorned as the Strangers had never seene the like.

Not long had they not passed y time in noting those glorious devises, but the Courtiers who had provided themselves to do her Highnesse honour, & cause her delight, which had so long time withdrawn her self from all pleasures: Armed in all parts with each man his severall device, they entred the Yard appointed of custome for the Tilt, where a Windoow opening from the Gallery, the Queene with these Strangers were set to behold these passtimes. The whole Company come, each one for Honour of her Grace, delivered his Scuchion of Device unto her Princely hands; where Gentlemen suppose you (that know Ladies praises, or dispraises) what hapned: Where to beguile the time, was each device by the Queen & her Ladies surveyed with such vigilant eyes, as nothing was unremembred, every one giving judgement according to that affection they bare the presenter.

While they were thus discanting, and the Marshall with the Judges appointing each man in his degree to try himselfe; Behold, a pretty Page mounted on a light running Courser, with his Guide before him winding his Horne in poasting manner, comming neare the place where the Queen was, alighted from his Horse, and being of height answerable to deliver his Letters with his hand, putting

them on his wand (after his duty done) humbly kissing them he offered them unto her Majesties hand, which the Queen perusing questioned him if he had ought else to impart: Who answered, Most famous Princess, my Lord and Master hearing of this Assembly which Fame hath brought to the honour of this Royall company, and high commendations of these Nobles hath sent (as not daring to approach the place without their lawfull favour obtained) who for Honour of his Mistresse, which he affirmeth and will maintaine, to be the most exquisite Lady for all perfections in the world: He offereth at the Tilt with each gain-layer to breake six Staves. If there be any such that will accept his challenge in maintaining his Mistresses honour, let me know him he shall soone be answered. The Page being unknown, the Nobles wondred what he might be which without exception had made this Challenge, imagining that hee was some man of valour, & that it were discurtesie to deny a man at Arms whatsoever. They generally concluding returned him by the Page, this answer.

Page, though thy Masters peremptory challenge deserve rather to be maligned then accepted, yet such is the Nobility of Trebilond, as honouring Arms and all professors thereof accept the same, and where we had appointed every one his companion, we are content to remit that election, and to bend all our force to his dishonour; and to him unknowne commend us, whom we intreat to Arme speedily, & speed him hither. The Page receiving this answer of the Nobles, the Queen calling him, which mounted was ready to depart, said;

Sir Boy, to thy unknowne Knight commend us, who in we thank for vouchsafing us that honour his Letters impart, which our Nobility have (without any suite of mine accepted) of whom we shall find men endowed with courage. The Page departed, sundry were the imaginations what this Knight might be who had offered them this proud challenge, in midst whereof a Trumpet sounding, they expected the Challenger who entred Armed in all parts with black Armour which was garnisht with many wounded Harts, on the brest a Lady with a cloath of fine Lawne wyping them, over-spreading as many as she could reach with a Scarlet carnation coloured his word (in Greeke, Despaire not) pacing on with easie Paces according to the use of the place; comming neer that end of the Tilt which was opposit with the Queenes window, bailing his head to her Majesty, shee graciously bad him welcome shaking her hand. Long had he not stayed but the Lord Marshall in like manner, with shew of great courtesie bad

him

him welcome, desiring to prepare for the entertainments attended him.

My Lord (quoth the Knight) at their good pleasures, when they shall put themselves forward at the Trumpets sound I will meet them. Thus warning given them without longer stay, the Lord Pomarius his Copartner in Hungaria set forward, whom Loves Heroick Champion met with such force, that his feet were too big for his stirrops, and he likely to have taken a more disgrace being unhorsed.

This first encounter was noted of all the Nobles, who commended his strength regarded him nothing but with such valour met him that he made him to his great disgrace forsake the Saddle, at which a generall shout (to the Knights great commendations) was given.

The L. Pomarius (having had his part) another came in his place, who went not away without some disgrace, so generally behaved he himselfe and with such honour and valour, that the Judges, Fathers of Armes gave the honour of the day to him, whom they all (though a Stranger) highly commended.

The Knight comming before the Queene, humbly doing his duty was with his Trumpet sounding ready to depart, whom the Nobles would not suffer without his knowledge, beseeching him not so much to dishonour them, of whom he had deserved Honour, in such manner to leave them.

Loves Heroick Champion, who would as willingly reveale himselfe as they desired, though he made show of some discontent yet would not deny their request, but calling for his Armour opened his Beaver, who being known to be Loves Heroick Champion, they were all the more honoured, taking no disgrace to be foyled of him, by whose hands so many had lost their lives who were honourable and expert in Armes. Being discovered he presented himselfe to her Majesty, who not a little joyfull of her Servants good fortune, whom she graced in this manner. Servant (quoth she) thanks for your paines and honouring us at this time, for which I assure you, I thinke my selfe much beholding: It had been pitty a Knight like you should have left these honourable Lords your friends, without having acknowledged your selfe unto us and them, who you shall see will be carefull to procure a Surgion who doubtlesse shall cure those bleeding hearts, if any such there be of skill in Trebisond.

Honoured Lady (qd. the Knight) the well-spring of curtesie and Nobility, most humble thanks I yeeld your Majesty for this Grace, without whose favour and grace, to whom in duty I am so bounden

I desire not life. This said, the Queene and the strange Nobles departing, supper being ready and they set, their Table-talke was of the brave behaviour of the knight who had all the honour attributed to him, that was to be required, wherein the Strangers were joyed loving him dearly, and to increase the Fame which generally was given him, they in presence of the whole Assembly declared the honours her Majesties Champion had gained in Hungaria and Ægypt, with the death of their King, who of a wound by his hand at the Tilt dyed: leaving nothing unspoken which might any way honour him, whereof the Queen joyed not a little, though she concealed the same. Supper being ended, and some part of the night spent in Dancing, Masking & other Court-like pastimes; the Queene commending the Nobles to their rests, had the company good night, who entring her Lodging, it might have joyed the heart of any Lady in love, to heare the generall applause of the Ladies given to Loves Heroick Champion, of whom no other talke was to be heard, each honourable part in him commended to his desert, & of his valour in Armes, no praise was sufficient: wherewith the Queen was not a little pleased, nor Eyrena discontent, to heare the only prize of Honour given her Lord by whom she had hope for her safest solace to be preserved. Thus joying on all parts, we leave the Queen with her company to their rests, and returne to the noble Strangers, whose commendations and honourable reports of the knight was such, that nothing could be more pleasing unto them, applauding the Welcome and Noble demeanour of the Queen, whose like in her time was not as they supposed to be found: with such lovely discourses passed these Nobles the night, to the which we leave them for a time.

These princely pastimes overpast, the care of the Queen was for dispatch of the Nobles of Hungaria, whom shee was loath to detaine from that desire they had to see their Country, take order with her Councell for their answer.

The Queen having care of her honourable word, signed her Letters, and deliuered her Answer with such words of love, and desire of welfare to their King, presenting their King and Queene with gifts of high esteeme; and taking order for Gallyes and necessary provision for the Nobles safe returne was highly commended.

This honourable entertainment of the Queen to those Strangers, gained her such honour through their reports, that those which heard the same, so admired her they could never speake sufficient.

CHAP.

Chap. XXVIII.

How the Nobles of *Hungaria*, having received great Favours and Graces from the Queen and her Nobility, departed. The Queen summoned a Parliament, in which the State doth consent, that shee marry *Loves Heroick Champion*, and is Crowned King and Queen of *Trebisond* and *Carmania*.

As time finisheth the greatest Affaires, so the carefull travaile of those to whom the provision of the Fleet was commended, was such that there was no wants in short time left unfurnished, that lacking nothing but a faire wind, which he that commandeth wind and Seas, sent in such happy time as they could wish, which not willing to lose, they commend the health and happy Government of the Queen, to him that ruleth all. And so accompanied with Loves Heroick Champion, who was loath to leave them, and many other Peeres of the Land, they were conducted each one to his severall Galley where being embarqued, their Sayles cut and they afore the Wind, they gave their farewell with such a brave ringing peale of great Canons, & then likewise their small Artillery, as wonderfully reioyced the beholders, which by the Gunners from the Queens Forts afore was as worthily answered. Thus parted these Nobles, who in short time arrived in safety in Ægype with their King, unto whom having delivered the Princely presents with their Letters, they omitted no reports of the honourable entertainment of the Queen and her Nobles in such maner, that where they or any of their traine long time after became, their Table-talke was only of their Honourable welcoms in Trebisond, ever applauding the Magnificent Grace, Wisdome and Bounty of the Queen, whom they gave the prize unto of all that lived in her time, leaving nothing unremembred, which might any way impaire the Honourable Reputation of her Nobles, which used them with all Curtesie and Bounty becomming their Estates: But especially Loves Heroick Champion, the discourse of whose Valour and manner of behaviour, bred more delight then the rest, for that the Nobility and Commons had knowledge of his Valour and Worthinesse.

These Honourable commendations of the Nobles joyed the King, who in his secret thoughts applauded her Highnesse favour and curtesie, that for his sake and honour had used those his Subjects in all

princely manner. But amongst those which take pleasure in hearing those discourses of the Nobles, the Queen inflamed with their reports burned with desire to see this peerlesse Princess return to Trebisond: Where the Knight imboldned by the favour of his gracious Lady, was not so great a Stranger with her Highnes, but that he might at pleasure repaire to her presence, with whom by his earnest suite, and desire to be possessed of her whom he so much loved and honoured, he egged her on still to marry, which, for that she would not doe, without a generall consent of her Nobles and States of the Realme, she caused a Parliament to be summoned, at which time, finding her fit opportunity she imparted her determinations in this manner.

Honourable Lords, and you our loving Commons here assembled, let not those few words I have to say unto you breed any discontent, that will deliver nothing dishonourable to my State, and your disparagement, to withhold you from the same long, were more Niceneſſe then Wisdome, wherefore briefly thus.

Sithence I was by permission of him ꝑ exalteth and pulleth down Princes at his will, I am by your Honourable and generall consents Crowned Queen of this Realme, to whose Government you have (as lawfully descended from him whom you all loved and feared) committed your selves, sithence which, you have all with shewes of honourable Love, and care of our State and Realmes by sundry examples perswaded me to Marriage, which you say may breed your happineſſe; whose god he that searcheth my hearts secrets knoweth that I more preferre then my life, on whose Suites so often made I have advisedly considered, and noting the many perils incident to our Sex, which rather require to be governed then to governe; The name of King being feared, honoured and loved though feare when they hold our Sex in contempt. All which considered with your former suites, if I grant to your requeſt, I doubt not, but I shall find that Favour which the worſt of my Subjects have freely to chuse, where their Loves and likings leadeth them, which if you grant I shall hold my love well bestowed on you, and shall have cause to thinke your Requeſt in times past hathbeene Honourable, and not to tye me to any Inconvenience, assuring you, that what ever he be that I shall bend my liking unto shall not disparage my Estate, nor dishonour you, but be worthy for Wisdome, Valour, and what else is required in honourable persons to mate the Princeſſe of most Renowne on the Earth. You have heard what I have to say, and wherefore chiefly this Parliament

tiament was summoned, of which I crave your answers.

The Nobles and Lords both spirituall & temporall, with the Commons of both Houses hearing the Quéenes Motions were all mute, not knowing sodainly in a matter of such weight what to answer: But removed from their dumps, the Speaker being both wise and well demeaned as befitted his place, humbly prostrating himselfe, thus said; Most gracious Princesse, albeit your Majesties request to this honourable House is no more then we have earnestly sought, yet pardon our sodain answer, and give us respite of time untill to morrow the remainder of this day, so it stand with your Princely Favour, shall be spent to hear y censure of all Estates in these presence, whose love and duty is such, as they will deny nothing wherein your royall & honorable estate is not disparaged, but in all things will with all humblenesse subject themselves to your Highnesse pleasure.

The Quéene loath to require such hast in answering her question, graciously commanded him to rise, granting most willingly to his demands, for which the whole Assembly with a untall voyce gave her Grace most humble thankes.

The Quéene having delivered the summe of her desire, graciously commending them to his Will that frameth all things, accompanied with many of her Péeres, departeth. The Quéen departed, all matters in question laid apart, the Péeres and most chiefest of both Houses assembled themselves in Councell, where you must suppose no matter for the benefit of the State was omitted. The request made by their Quéen with great advice considered, wch amongst them was admired, where many imaginations assailed them, devising of each side, what he should be that is in so high estéeme and favour with her Grace, and of such worthy reputation as she hath reported him, some naming one, then some another, yet the principall object of her Love never remembred, which drave them all to a non plus.

But what ever he were, time of their own desire to answer, craved some dispatch of what they had in question. Wherefore leaving frivolous questions, they proceed to their begun action; gladly would they have béen certified of their Elected King, but in vain it was for them to require it. Wherefore considering their owne desires, they thought it would be taken in evill part of her Highnes, to gain-say what with such humble and earnest sutes they had required, assuring themselves of her Wisdome, Goverment & care of their goods, which was so wise, and every way so Honourably demeaned, which consider-

red, thereupon relying, it was generally determined to referre all to her owne will, pleasure and good liking. Wh which resolved the chiefest of the Nobility, accompanied with divers of the Clergy, in hope of the Queens good acceptance, speedeth them to the Court, who sodainly was advertised of their comming with their Request, wch was to have accesse to her Highnes. No sooner was her Highnes therof certified, but leaving her Chamber where she was busily imployed about those businesses which she had in hand, devising the answer of the Commons, leaving all, she speedeth her unto them, where taking her Place, their duties in all humblenes done, and she with all honorable curtesie required it; the Speaker in presence of the whole Assembly, thus said: —

Dread Soveraign, the Lords both Spirituall and Temporall, with Commons in this honourable Parliament assembled, weying with care and wisdome the Honour of your highnesse, and carefully tendering the weale Publick, have with great care of both (the premisses) considered with your Majesties request, albeit, they have no knowledge of his Honourable person, unto whom your Royall liking is united, yet relying on your Princely wisdome, and care of your Subjects, by whose welfare their happines is to be maintained, with one unanimous consent they willingly subject themselves unto your Highnes will & pleasure, assuring your Grace that whom you shall vouchsafe to endue with title of Lord and Husband, they will accept for their Soveraigne, and will in all humblenes acknowledge with loving hearts their duties unto him as to their lawfull King by your Majesties election. Thus my gracious Lady have they willed me to say, in behalfe of them all, and most humbly beseech your Highnes to make knowne unto them the Name so honoured, which you have vouchsafed to like, to the end they neglect not that Duty which is due unto him by your good Grace.

The Queen hearing this answer of her Commons, was more joyed and in heart contented, then ever she was since the Death of her Father, her loving Countenance shewing the content of her heart so long discontent, which made her with Grace and curtesie, to say:

My Lords all, and you of the Commonalty, you have in yeelding to these honourable Motions by me made, highly commended her, whose desire in Love made me not so head strong to consent without your generall liking, my choise being such, as may be mated with the Peerelesse Lady of high esteeme in the World, as I doubt not your

selves

ſelves will confeſſe, when he ſhall be known unto you, my high eſteem of him laid apart, for that you may ſay, Affection is blind. And as the Proverb ſaith, The Negro by nature, black and loathſome in our eyes eſteemes her Infant faire; ſo Love, which commandeth all Creatures, cauſed many Princes and Ladies of worth, to ſubmit themſelves to baſe eſtates, Imperious Love ſo overmaſtering their hearts, to aſſure you that my liking is not ſuch, and to ſatisfie you which with your curteous conſent hath contented me, know your elected Soveraigne and he that I have ſubjected my Love unto, is of no leſſe worth then a Prince, royally borne, and deſcended from the loynes of a King famous, and a Queen endowed with much honour, himſelfe ſhewing his Royall diſcent by his demeanour, which is valiant, wiſe and curteous, ſuch a one I know your deſires is to chuſe for your Soveraigne: All affection ſet apart ſuch a one I have choſen, which ſhall cauſe all your joyes if you joy in my good. Where breaking off their Speech with other words of curteſie, geving them great thanks, ſhe called Syrilla, whom ſhe commanded to ſend ſome truſty Meſſenger for the Prince, willing all buſineſſe ſet apart, to repaire unto her; which done, framing pleaſant diſcourſes which delighted the Nobles, ſhe ſought to their contents to paſſe the time untill the Meſſenger returned, which made ſuch haſt that he found the Knight, unto whom he imparted the Queens pleaſure, which albeit, the ſodainneſſe thereof was troubleſome unto him, cloying his head with deviſing ſundry matters, which her haſty ſending for him ſhould import, yet neglecting no time he haſteneth him to the Preſence, where to the Queene hee was the welcommeſt man living as her countenance declared; who calling him unto her, commanded a Chair to be brought & ſeated him on her left hand to the admiration of all beholders, wch done, ſhe ſaid;

My Lords, and you our loving Subjects, muſe not at this unwonted favour ſhewed to this Gentleman, nor repine not; for that it is your owne ſute and my Choice, and he that I have ſworne my Love and loyall affection unto; who albeit hath thus long ſubjected himſelfe to our Service, doing us many high favours, as your own eyes can witneſs, induced unto it by that high Commander of men, who hath procured many Princes to the like; for our Love, as I am aſſured, hee abandoned his Kingly Seat, diſguiſed in the baſe attire of a Marchant, came to our Court, where what honours he hath gained by his Valour and Curteſie, not one of you but know Pheander of Carmenia, being his native Soyle, and the Kingdome his by lawfull

dissent from the King his Father. Let it not dismay you my friends nor judge my words spoken of him for his Honour to be more then truth, for shall you wrong him whose worth you may by my reports be assured of, & injury her which had never intent but to deserve well of you all. Therefore as you have your desire knowing him, in token of your Love & generall consents, by whom he is your adopted King, shew by your compliance how pleasing my choyce is unto you.

The Nobles amazed at the Queenes speech, although they could hardly be induced to beleeve what she had said, yet such was the love they honoured her with, that giving credit unto her words without longer paule of the matter, that the Queene might the rather be won to credit their former speech, with an universall voyce, prostrating themselves before him, they cryed, God save the King and Queene, vowing unto him Loyalty and fealty as unto their King and Soveraigne.

Thanks good my Lords, quoth the Prince, for your good consents, and doubt not of my Love to you, which with such hearty affection shall be shewed that my dearest blood shall be shed, ere the least haire of the basest of your head shall perish. Which said, the Queene standing up requested the Nobles, that as they had with consent elected him their King, so they would appoint the time for solemnizing the Marriage with the Cozonation, changing his Name from Pheander, Loves Heroick Champion, to Armatius the lawfull Heire of the Carmanian Crowne, for that was his Right, and the name of Pheander but usurped.

Which request of her Majesty they easily granted, appointing the Marriage three dayes following, and the Cozonation presently to follow, which to their great joyes was accomplished with all the Honour might be done by their Subjects, the costly Showes, & all manner of delightfull pastimes there used, I omit, albeit it was pleasing both to their King and Queen, and brought great joy and comfort to all beholders. The Marriage with the Cozonation past, the Commons delighted with their King confirming his Grace to be so honourable as the Queen had reported him, and they found, who in that Parliament to honour the Trebisonds the more, and let them know his love was no whit inferiour to theirs, he entailed the Crowne of Carmania, to the lawfull Heire of Trebisond, succeeding; assuring them that his Nobles and Commons should confirme the same.

Which curteous favour the Peers and Nobles so gratefully accepted

cepted, as they returned him for the same many gracious thankes: The Parliament prorogued according to the custome of the Country, their Duties in all humblenes done, the Nobles with the chiefest of all parts in the Land, wished the Queen and King many happie dayes to their joy and hearts content: which they requited with such showes of Love as might delight them, and give them cause to joy in their Princes election of whom their comfort was great, and their assurance of Tranquility with forraigne Princes, through his magnanimity to be such, as all true Subjects might have pleasure to rejoyce. Their leave taken, every one departs well content to his owns home.

CHAP. XXIX.

How the aged *Machaon*, that Pilgrim-like had travelled many Countries in search of the Prince *Armatius*, and arrived in the Court of *Trebisond*: Whom the King questioned of his Country and Travell; And in the end is knowne to be the Kings Tutor *Machaon*, who doth recount unto him all the troubles of his Country of *Carmania*.

THus the King and Queen enjoying their hearts content: their Loves more and more increased, that there was no discourse but only of their most faithfull Love and hearts liking: Through which, the Commons lived in Peace and Tranquility, praying for their long Lives to bee continued.

To which content in Love, the Story leaveth them, recounting the arrivall of the aged Machaon in Trebisond, who with his long travell came unto the Court, where wandring Pilgrim-like, living by the devotion of bountifull people, hee spent some time in contemplation, others in viewing the beauty of the Court, and manners of the people, oft times commending their Religion, and serving their Creator: taking much pleasure in discoursing with such Pilgrim-strangers as he met of the divers conditions of those Nations, whose Countries he had seene, which being many, her affected no Princes Kingdome as this Countrey of Trebisond.

This grave and ancient aged Father overwome with griefe and tedious long travell, was so much altered in his Face, as he that (in former time) had well known him, might very well now have mistaken his feature; which made the King (who oftentimes had noted his comely Person) his Pilgrims attire and other Ornaments, began greatly to affect him, little suspecting it was the aged Machaon.

But

But as time reveareth greatest secrets, and bringeth friends to knowledge, so the King taking pleasure beholding this Pilgrim, noted him so often, that his Physiognimy to his memory, presented the feature of his beloved Machaon, which imagined thought, began to take such rot in the King, as he greatly desired to have some conference with the Pilgrim, evermore perswading himselfe that it was his noble Tutor and famous Physitian.

To assure himselfe and the better to be resolved of that doubt, he determined to have some certaine knowledge of the aged man if he might, and for that purpose, caused his Pages to give diligent heed if they saw him in the Court to bring tydings thereof, which they did according to his Majesties commandment, attending with such care at that usuall time he was accustomed to come, that he passed not of them unperceived, whereof they gave the King intelligence, by whose command he was summoned to his Presence.

The aged Pilgrim at his first summons of the Messenger, was in such dread of wrong to intrap him, as he greatly feared some ill to betide him, well knowing that Princes have many eyes, & Strangers are markes, how poore soever their Estates are, especially frequenting the Court as he did, yet he whose conscience could not accuse him of any evill intent against the King, had this hope that God whom he served, doth protect the Innocent and would deliver him.

Thus casting his care on him that commandeth Kings not without many imaginations what should be the cause hee came unto the Kings presence, unto whom as one that knew his good, hee prostrated himselfe, praying most heartily for the Kings prosperity.

The King which saw the old man bowing before him, kindly took him from the ground, tendering his Age which he honoured, whom the more he noted, the more the lovely face of his beloved Machaon presents it unto his memory, the thought of whom caused his heart to much sorrow, yet shaking off the griefe of Father, Kingdome and Friend, he said; Aged Father, in whose face appeareth gravitie, tell me of the dutifull Love thou owest thy most beloved friend, of what Countrey thou art, and what Fortunes hath brought thee to this Region; that honouring thee, whose Age requireth the same, I may further thy Suites if y have any, or wanting health I may relieve thee. The wofull Pilgrim revived by the Kings honorable speeches, said:

Renowned Prince, the mirrour of honour, of whose fame y world is filled, to satisfie your Excellence, know, that occasions of imp-

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tance thereunto moving me, I forsook my Native Country in search of those, whom my fortune was never yet to meet, yet have I travailed many Kingdomes, and in my travell have seen many Princes Courts, and noted their severall demeanors, yet most gracious Soveraigne, never tooke I pleasure in any as in this Country of Trebisond, the Nobles especially giving me cause to admire them, whose minds like their true Gentility, as the fruit maketh the tree known; in such taking delight, I have (though more then best meeth a stranger) so often frequented thy Court: Wherewith if your Grace takes any offence, I humbly beseech your pardon, for I am now ready to depart.

The King such had heard that tongue so often read him many Letters, & given him instructions of honour, was not deceived in him; albeit he forbare to acknowledge him whom he desired so heartily to see, unto whom he was more welcome then any man living, yet concealing himselfe he said; Father, thankes for thy love, and honourable report of our Realme and people, for which I rest thy debtor. But tell me aged man, of what Country art thou? and what account were those friends with thee, whom thou with such overwearied travell hast sought; whether thy Allies or thy friends by adoption.

At this motion of y King, the old man overcome with y thoughts of those of whom his pittifull tale was to be told, could not forbeare teares, such with such abundance of bitter sobs and heavy sighs were uttered insomuch that it moved the King to great wrath, seeing those silver haires which he honoured (bedewed with salt drops) the outward witnesse of his discontent. Wherefore like the carefull Physician having ministred bitter Pilles to his Patient, seaseneth the same with some sweeter taste, he comforteth the aged Machon with words so pleasing, that if cheared the old man, yet would not pardon his request, which caused him to say:

Famous King, if pitty of my old Age may any way move your urge not my faltering tongue to utter a tale of such ruth as it importeth: the remembrance whereof overclogeth me with extreame sorrow, and will bring your Excellence but small delight: Therefore Soveraigne Prince, pardon me, which cannot reveale the truth of so pittifull a tale (as yet) without the hazard of my life, my heart so overcharged with griefe, that to thinke thereon driveth me neare to death, then pardon me.

But how loath soever y King might not be intreated, whom with

such pleasing speech he forceth on, that comforted by his Majesties kind words, whom he would not gainsay; he said; Athenee nothing may perswade your Excellence to pitty me, accept in worth my tideness and pardon it. ie. hich said, humbly doing his duty, as one that could declare his mind, he thus proceeded.

Dread Lord, know Cornelius is my Native soyle, where through the Grace of my thrice Noble Prince, I consumed my youth in all happinesse, favoured by his favour, with the best of account in that Realme and so graced by the King, that he committed the Government of his deare Sonne, more deare to him then Life, to bee trained up by me, of whom as duty willed me, I had that care as is required of a Subject unto his Lord, joying in nothing the world possesseth so much as in the towardness of the Prince, whose vertuous youth might be a Load-starre to all that ever I saw, for curteste matchlesse, as bountifull as Tymon, more valiant then Hector, or the best deserving that lived; cunning was he in the liberall Arts, what should I say of him whose honourable praise, no tongue can with such commendations utter as his honours and vertues requireth, so generally beloved of all men, that death is more sweeter to many thousands of his Subjects, then the remembrance of that Noble Prince. Here teares restrained his speech, that he could not utter a word, standing so astonished that he rather represented the Image of Death then a living creature, whom the King put from his heavy passion thus.

Father, thou hast filled my heart with a world of wonders at thy strange talke; which I conjure thee, of ye love thou owest the Prince whom thou sorrowest so to remember, not to leave in such abrupt manner, but proceed? Dyed the King and the Prince so of thee honored, and through their deaths gan thy Travell, Say sweet Father?

Though the reporting of this dolefull History (more grievous unto me then death) should finish my dayes, yet such is the pennance by your Majesties conjuring Speech enjoyned mee, that what griefe soever I endure, I will satisfie your Grace.

The Prince, Oh my Lord, that it would please you to pardon the rest, growing to years of discretion, I know not through what means, neither could I for all the diligence I used attaine unto it; but sicke he was, and so opprest with such a strange Agony, that no Physicke could minister reliefe unto him, nor yield him any ease, so that there was small hope of his recovery, the strangenesse of each malady being such, as sometime faring like a man frantick no perswasions of rea-

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son might prevaile with him, who in his health was to be ruled in all things. This passion so long assailed the Prince, and so little hope of his recovery, that the extremity thereof gan touch the King & Queen Mother, whose careful Love was such, as Nature could not require more in Parents-what never. The continuall griefe of the Prince wrought such care in the aged King and Queene, that it was not to be found wch of them was most grieved, or whose lot it was to give his due to death first: Yet as no care is so great but hath some comfort, so the Commander of men, when all hope of Life was past hope of men, restored the Prince to health, and by his health recovered the King & Queene for whose welfare the Commons more rejoyced then of their own good, so that a generall joy was throughout the Realme, tryumphing at this happy recovery of the Prince, the King & Queen. But as the fairest day is sheriffadowed with clouds, so was the Sunshine of their joy eclipsed through the great folly of the Prince, who unknowne of all men, or acquainting any with his pretence left his Father, Crowne, and Subjects, and liveth no man knoweth how or where; for whom the King felt a million of woes, griefe so assailing his aged Corps, as he was like to rest with Death, but Reason subduing affection, he recovered his sicknesse, and leaving his Land without a Governour, likewise departed, whether no man knoweth.

The Mother Queen being of nature but weake, resigned her due to death, whom as duty commands me, I entombed with such honour as besæmeth the person of a Queen, & so perswaded with the Commons in a Parliament for ye same intent called, as the Government of the Realme was committed to sixe of the Nobility, who are bound to resigne their Authority, when the lawfull Successour shall require it: Which done, I forsoke all I enjoyed, and Pilgrim-like (as your Highnesse sees) have travelled many Countries and Kingdomes in search of my Soveraigne the Prince, but for all the diligence I can use, of them can learne no Tydings.

Thus with teares standing in his Eyes hee ended his lamentable History, which the King was assured to bee true, but it was the least thought of Machaon, ye he delivered this delefull tale to the Prince: Which has likewise some cause of griefe, wch so neare touched himselfe, as he could not for teares utter what he would, yet putting by his passions as he could, he saw:

Aged Father, matter of great griefe hast thou delivered, which to heare is most lamentable, and may touch that carelesse Prince neare,

by whom this chance is chanced to his Parents or Subjects: But tell me Father, all griefe laid apart, in what state liveth the Subjects of thy King, under their Government with the charge.

Yet is not your Grace satisfied (qd. the Pilgrim) but will exact on me more to increase my griefe; which seeing you delight in, I shall unfold that, which in recounting will kaish all, yielding my breath to him that gave it me, therefore attend.

Not long sithence, unknown I chanced to accompany in my Travell a Gentleman of Carmania, to me well knowne, which for I saw I was out of knowledge with him, I questioned him of many matters as your Grace hath done me, which amongst other his newes of discontent, reported that those elected Governours, whose hearts kroyling with Ambition and desire of the whole Authority, as the title of King to the ambitious is sweet, so these covetous wretches taking part one with the other, some inclining one way, some to the other part, ye civill discord was raised, where the Father bare Armes against the Son, the Son against the Father, and Kinsman against Kinsman, one imbruing their hands in others blood, through which many a Woman is left a Widow, and many a sweet Infant Fatherlesse, which makes me greatly feare, without his helpe that sendeth all help to the helplesse, the Land will be impoverished, and our King and Prince returning, shall from their propper right bee debarred by these usurping villaines; whose hearts my aged teeth in revenge of their Treachery and wrong done the Commons, I could teare. The King hearing this tale of discontent, was moved more at the wrong offered the Commons then all the former History, wch made him say;

Father, I have noted thy long tale, which hath moved me both to sorrow and delight, grieving for the Commons opprest, yet joying that any Prince should have a subject of such worth as is rare in these times to be found; wherefore Father, that thou maist live in my Court to draw others to their fidelity to their Prince, I will here detaine thee, and because thou lovest that carelesse Prince Armatius, will honour thee during my Life, enduing thee with Treasure, and what else thou shalt at any time command, for all I enjoy is thine, and if hereafter thou shalt thinke it convenient, I will with a strong power enter their distressed Confines, and chastening those Rebels, leave thee Regent in their place, untill further tydings shall be of thy King or his Son, whom I am sure will not abuse them.

The aged Father hearing those honorable speeches from the mouth

of

of the King, was astonied, knowing well that Princes of esteeme honour themselves, holding their words, yet not minded to give over search for his Soveraigne, he returned the King humble thankes, beseeching his Highnesse to pardon him, which hath vowed to end his Life in performing his vow to the Prince, and either heare Tydings of him, or never see his Countrey, the place of the World most pleasing unto him. The King hearing his words, having great experience of his Fidelity, could conceale himself no longer, but imbracing him in his armes, bedewing his aged haires with drops like raine, he said;

Faithfull Machaon, the Pirrour of true friendship, whose equall in Love is not to be found, what cause have I to honour thee, whose care is such of me that have so ill deserved, but forgive me Machaon, my misse against thee committed, forgive me Noble Father, and you Subjects of Carmania, who by me unhappy creature have beene so much wronged, and thou Machaon my carefull Tutor, forgive me I intreat, and continue thy Love to mee unhappy Prince, whom thou hast now found, which for thy fidelity hath vowed to honour thee, as hereafter my deeds shall manifest. Wherefore after thy weary travell rest thee with me in Trebisond, where thou shalt see a Second Armatius, for never will I live longer, then to be held a friend and perfect Lover of thee, which with such carefull Travell, truth and loyalty hath shewed thy selfe so firme a Friend.

Machaon as a man whose sences was amazed, standing long time staring in the face of the King as a man ravished, beholding with good advice his Physiognomy, when through his long view, by a secret signe he had knowledge of his Soveraigne, such sodaine joy assailed him that overcome with the same he fell in a Trance; to the great discomfort of the King who showed his skill to revive him, with shaking and rubbing his pulses, sparing no paines untill he had brought him to breath, who being recovered turning his Eyes as a man distracted, after he had paused a while, said;

WOrthy Prince, how blessed am I of the Gods, that have granted me such grace to behold my Soveraigne the chiefe joy of my worldly joyes, which having seene, I care not how soone the summons of Death attach me my request being obtained, which have long time cloyed their Deities with my tedious Orisons for thy welfare, which seeing by their permission I have obtained. Let it

not be ostensible unto your Majesty to resolve me, what cause moved you to leave your noble Father, and those your Subjects that honoured you, unto whom your Excellence was more dear than life.

Uncurreous, my loving Machaon, might I be held and accounted amongst men most ungratefull, if I should deny thy request who hath shewed thy selfe so firme a Friend unto me, therefore attend what grievous maladies oppresse me.

My good friend (qd. the King) is knowne to none so well as your selfe, whose paines for my recovery was such as I shall never requite, the cause I have heard thee and many learned of our Country affirme, they could never attaine to know, though for my recovery all meaned was by them and you sought, which made my griefe the more to increase. The originall from a conceited fancy, Love mastering my heart, which with such power commanded all my inferiour parts, as I expected no other but death, which I rather would have subjected my selfe unto then have revealed the same. But hee that governeth mens thoughts, on the sodaine as you can witnesse, when all hope was past armed me with courage whereon I took such hold, resolving to follow such determination, that with thought thereof, I recovered in short time my health, which obtained disguised in the attire of a Marchant having provided me sufficient store of Money and Jewels, I embarqued my selfe for this Port, where without carrying any other shew, I imployed by Brokers my stock to maintaine my charge, till opportunity was offered me in defence of the King heere and his Daughter my Queene, to shew my force against the Turke his invading Foe, wherein I obtained a happie Victory, and by that victory obtaining some better reputation, the King holding me right dear, where by the head of ye Princess I received my Knighthood; a Guift so pleasing to me as in no Kingdom of the world was to be found the like, esteeming more the Honour done to me by my Mistres the commander of my heart, then all the Guifts on ye earth; for by her Love I lived, without whose favour I had long sithence rested with the Dead; She my Machaon, which untill my comming into her Country I never saw, but only by report of her vertuous and honourable demeanours, whereof no man could say sufficient, so enthralled my heart, that nothing but her Love might preserve my Life, so had her vertues intangled me in love unto her, whose Love it hath pleased the higher powers to bestow upon me, whereof being possest, no man hath more cause then I to be thankfull for it.

Thus

Thus my Machaon have I acquainted this with my Cares never before to any knowne; Love of this Lady was the Loadstarre that brought me hither, through whose Love I possesse the Crowne and Kingdome of Trebisond; whether he man is welcome as my Machaon, and so use me sweet Friend (qd the King) as if I were Machaon, for next my Lady and Queen, thou [illegible] the entire affection of my heart.

The Queen which expected her Lords company for Dinner, [illegible] at his long stay having no more company in his study than the Pilgrim, went her selfe to call him and to [illegible] off their discourse, thus pleasantly she said; My Lord (quoth the Queen) are your offences so great and your sins so many, that they require such long time of dissolution, in my opinion your Highness were good if you have not finished to take some victuals and then to begin again.

Your Grace (qd the King) is pleasantly disposed, I am glad to see you in so good a humor, especially my Friend being in place, which of the love you beare me, I intreat you to did welcome, for he is neare and deare unto me. And to satisfie your Grace what he is being so poore in attire, and so high in esteeme with me: Know Madam, he was sometime of the privy Councell to my Father the King, and my faithfull Physitian and Tutor in my infrority, whose loyalty & love hath been such to me in times past as since I abandoned my Country he forsooke not only his possessions but his place of Honour, and what else he joyed most in, committing his aged Body to travell in many Princes Countries in search for me, of whom he never had hope ever to see again: leaving my Realme in such wise as I did them, whereof your Ladiships love was the cause, though all the Physitians of the Country could not by their skill find it; Therefore Madame, for my sake love him and give him your favourable countenance which he will endeavour to deserve. Thus passed they Dinner with delight not without great admiration of the Nobles, who had divers thoughts and cogitations in their minds, what he should he was so in favour.

Dinner ended, the King tooke order for Machaons apparell, such as became a Councellour and a man of his Gravity, passing the day in repeating often the estate of his owne Subjects in the Kingdome of Carmania of whom for that he would be assured, he presently tooke order for the dispatch of one of the Nobility to his Country to whom he gave strict charge not to be knowne of his successe in attaining to the Kingdome of Trebisond, but according to his Letters, whose contents

tents imported his Imprisonment in a fortaine Country, with command to provide his Ransome, which was a great summe, and with that Messenger to repaire unto him, who lived obscured among his Enemies, not daring to be known unto any man, but only to that honourable Gentleman, whose love he had found such, as hee could not requite, with like request that they entertaine him, in such manner as they would himselfe if he were present.

By this policy (the King thought to make tryall of their Loves and loyalties) perswading himselfe, that if their readinesse were such to deliver so much Money as he required, that their loves to him was not allienated; with this charge the noble Gent. departed.

Machaon who calling to remembrance the Answer of the Oracle, he observed this of the King in his travels, had taken upon him first the habits of a Marchant; secondly by the Princesse Knighted; and lastly, crowned King, and possessed the Diademe of Trebisond, and Carmania. Machaon, the King called to the place of a privy Councellour, which he discharged with such wisdome and care, that he gained the favour and respect of the Princesse, and was of the Nobles and Commons held in high esteeme.

Thus leaving the King and Queene in Honour and content, to finish their dayes in joy and delight, (after their many tinterings) that their true Love may be an Example for Court and Commons, and let Subjects prayers be for their Princes happie injoyments of Peace.

FINIS.